

The North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT AND CONSULAR GAZETTE

THE WEEKLY EDITION OF THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS

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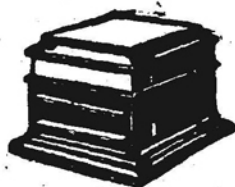
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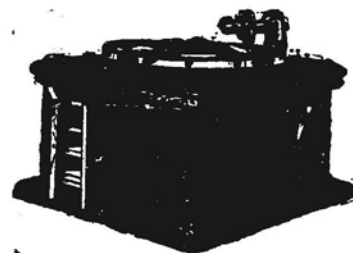
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CANTON AND THE CUSTOMS

Jan. 22.

THE announcement of the Canton Government's decision—it will, no doubt, prove more correct to say attempt—to seize control of the Maritime Customs is merely what was to be expected when Dr. Sun Yat-sen and his friends went south to reinstitute the Military-Government after the expulsion of the Kuang-si party. Very appositely we receive to-day from our Peking correspondent an account of the steps leading up to this event. When Mr. Quo Tai-chi passed through Shanghai at the beginning of this month, it was known that he was the bearer of a virtual ultimatum from Canton to the Diplomatic Body, and Canton's determination to seize what it cannot get by persuasion is the consequence of Mr. Quo's failure. Much the same thing was tried by the then Government of the Southwestern Federation in August, 1918, but without success, the Legations taking a very strong stand, even to the length of threatening to send a man-of-war to Canton. With the Salt Gabelle, however, the case was different, and Yunnan, Kuangtung and Szechuan were all permitted to sequester considerable salt moneys for their own use. Chang Tso-lin tried the same game last autumn for the payment of his troops; but there the Legations interfered and he released the money. On the other hand, since the dispute in 1918 mentioned above, the Diplomatic Body has consented to a percentage of the Customs surplus being paid to Canton. The Legations' policy, in short, has been wholly lacking in consistency, a fact which does

not make their position easier in the present instance.

The unofficial sympathy with Canton's desires which our correspondent says is felt in the capital will probably be shared in other quarters. It certainly seems hard luck that Kuangtung's trade should be mulcted for the benefit of Peking, which not only has no control whatever over Canton, but might even spend the money in making war on it. But sentimental considerations cannot blind one to the material danger and impossibility of acquiescing in Canton's attempt. What it now proposes appears to go very much farther than anything previously tried. The whole Customs Service functioning in the provinces under the Military Government's jurisdiction is, the telegram informs us, to be "subject to its (the Canton Government's) order and control on and after February 1." Practically this means that the Service would be cut in two, for the Canton authorities declare themselves both the *de facto* and *de jure* government. Acquiescence in their plan would, therefore, mean that the Legations were recognizing two Governments in China. And if two, why not twelve, or eighteen, or twenty-two? If Canton be allowed to keep its Customs, why not Hunan, Szechuan or Shansi? Moreover, though Canton protests that it will remit to Peking its proportionate share of what has to be paid out of Customs revenue in foreign obligations, who is going to calculate what that share is, and how? The whole project is impossible, in principle and practice, and will have to be stopped, however much sympathy may be felt for Canton.

The episode is instructive as illustrating the extreme difficulty of the course which the Diplomatic Body has to steer and of the urgent need of their arriving at some concerted policy and sticking to it. There appear to be but two courses open. The one is to abstain from all official

admission of the internal discords which rend China and to hold rigidly aloof from them. This line, while it shuts the door against any loan not clearly designed for productive purposes, would equally forbid toleration of any act likely to interfere with the orthodox machinery of the two great services, the Customs and the Gabelle, which are the mainstay of China's finances. If there has been inconsistency in this respect in the past (as shown above), there is all the more reason for no inconsistency in the future. The other course is that the Legations should frankly face the fact that a Central Government in China has practically ceased to exist, that there appears very small chance of order being restored without outside assistance and that they must come to the rescue. That would mean representations not only in Peking and Canton, but in many other provincial capitals; and those representations would have to be something more than the inept Note to Peking and Canton of December 2, 1918, vaguely urging them to settle their differences, but must include a definite proposal as to how those differences may be adjusted and China be set upon her feet. It is a task for which one can well understand that the Powers and their representatives have no appetite. But we believe there are numbers of influential Chinese who would hail such an offer with relief; and if, as seems extremely probable, the Diplomatic Body will be compelled to do to-morrow what they hesitate voluntarily to attempt to-day, the work will certainly grow no easier for delay.

PEKING, Jan. 24.—The United States cruiser New Orleans, while steaming to Vladivostok on the 21st instant, rescued five Korean fishermen who had been blown out to sea in an open boat on the 16th, and were in a starving condition. They were handed over to the Japanese Consul at Vladivostok on arrival.—Reuter.

THE ELDORADO TRAGEDY

Jan. 24.

SAVE for the merciful provision of American law which recognizes varying degrees in the heinousness of murder, Henry B. Furbush would to-day be resting under sentence of death. Indeed under other codes there would be no doubt of it whatever, and Furbush has to thank the fact of his citizenship of the United States that he is not at present looking forward to a rapidly approaching and ignominious end. To those who think deeply on such matters it would appear that Furbush is not alone guilty, that he was but the instrument which has brought into the full glare of publicity a state of affairs of which the community as a whole is as culpable as he is of his immediate act; and if the whole of the foreign population of Shanghai can be brought to realize the hideous condition of things upon which this paper has dilated for some four years, Furbush will not have been branded a felon entirely for naught and his wife and child will not have suffered through the years to come entirely unavailingly. As it is, magistrates in various Courts, newspapers and many moral workers have the melancholy privilege of being able to tell Shanghai at large "we told you so."

The elements of this tragedy are of the simplest kind. They deal with a comparatively young man, leaving his ship for a night's jollification, carrying a pistol, taking more drinks than he should—drinks whose places of sale do not relieve them of the most sinister suspicions—going to a locality of unenviable repute, entering into an altercation, and finally drawing and firing his weapon at a person with whom he had in fact no quarrel. It is not to be believed for one moment that this man went out from his ship bent on murder or even strife with anyone, or that he at any time, save in so far as he was under the influence of drink to such an extent as might modify his processes of thought, desired the death of anyone. He was out to enjoy himself with the poor facilities for enjoyment that Shanghai offers to such casual visitors. Speculation on such matters does

not help much, but it can be safely said that, had he not drunk the drinks he did and where he did, Furbush would to-day be a free man far away from Shanghai on his ship. Consequently, shorn of the man's foolish acts, the tragedy constitutes as damning an indictment of the community as can possibly be imagined. One man is dead and another has stood in imminent peril of death by a fault of the community. It may be argued that the existence of the "Trenches"—a name which should everywhere be indicative of immortal glory rather than most mortal degradation—is a matter over which the community has little or no control. That may or may not be so, but it has taken four long years to rouse public opinion and the old newspaper saying that "Someone will have to die before this evil is remedied" has been again vindicated.

And what is to be done that such things may not occur again? Firstly, and foremost, the "Trenches" must go and that for ever. Secondly, within its own borders Shanghai must see to it that brothels and low coffee houses are sternly dealt with when instances of the sale of liquor are discovered. And thirdly, it must be definitely made known that the carrying of arms in the Settlement will be punished most rigorously, masters of ships should be warned of the dangers their men run when armed, and for their own sakes should be impressed with the necessity of preventing their men travelling with weapons of any nature in their possession. The first two seem the most important, for while such places exist, with their continual danger of violence among the habitués, as experience tells us is the case, few men frequenting them, especially if strangers, will be willing to go there without some means of offence or self-defence. To suppress these extramural haunts should be no more difficult than was the closing of the "Wheel" or the Alhambra: the prevention of the carriage of arms might be an entirely different matter, but when the necessity for carrying them has disappeared the habit of doing so, which undoubtedly exists among certain of our sailormen visitors, aided by the strict enforcement of the law, will disappear also and will tend to bring about

a much happier state of affairs. For those concerned, we would urge upon them with all the emphasis of which the written word is capable that until something on the lines suggested above has been done, such occurrences as that which is now ended must continue with some degree of frequency and the moral guilt of all of us will be as strong as it undoubtedly is now.

HOME RULE AND THE HOUSE OF LORDS

Jan. 25.

THE debate in the House of Lords on the second reading of the Home Rule for Ireland Bill was marked by some remarkable speeches. In 1893 Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill was debated by the peers with even more vehemence than was shown on this occasion. That Bill was thrown out by a majority of 378. Out of a total roll call of 560, there was an attendance of 419 and only 41 peers were found bold enough to vote in its favour. The more recent Bill was carried by a majority of 89 and amongst those voting against it were some who opposed it, not because it offered too much to Ireland, but because it did not go far enough. Even those who love the House of Lords least must confess that like Galileo's cosmos it really does move and its friends will say that like the cosmos its movements are coordinated and dignified. Be that as it may the passage of the Bill shows that even those who are usually regarded as the most conservative legislative body in the British Empire are anxious to do Ireland justice. And the fact that some peers were willing to go further than the Bill actually goes is a proof that if this measure were accepted with a modicum of good will, whatever defects it has—and in so large a measure it is inevitable that there should be some blemishes—would be rectified when its administration revealed them. But in the present deplorable condition of Ireland there is little hope that the bill will be given even the semblance of a trial. For the present the irreconcilables are in the saddle. Ruthless and cowardly murder and ferocious reprisals alternate like the ebb and flow of a ghastly tide. All Sinn Feiners are not assass-

sins, but when a high-minded man like the late Lord Mayor of Cork could say, "We are at war with England; we ask for no mercy and we will accept no compromise," the door seems shut and bolted against any hope of peace. One of the "black and tan" special constabulary said to a correspondent of the "Daily Herald," "We came down here willing to live at peace with them but they have declared war on us and, I suppose, war it must be." He and his fellows had no spite against Sinn Fein and perhaps no interest in Irish politics but they were slaughtered by men who sauntered past them in the street and then turned and shot them in the back. That is not war any more than is the murder of British officers in their beds in the presence of their wives in Dublin or the attempts at arson in Liverpool and London. These things are but a cheap imitation of German frightfulness and the men who think they can terrorize the nation by acts of this kind as little understand the psychology of the Briton as he is said to understand the Celt. In physics action and reaction are equal and opposite and savagery like this is a boomerang that recoils on the heads of those guilty of it. If Sinn Fein wished to demonstrate to the world that it is no more fit for self-determination than is Russian Bolshevism, it could have chosen no better method to accomplish its purpose.

The "New Statesman," a periodical as pro-Irish as the "Freeman's Journal" itself, prints a letter from an Irish correspondent who says:—

"I enclose a cheque towards the independent investigation fund because I feel that you are right in saying that British honour requires such an investigation into the present method of 'reprisals.' But I wish to say, at the same time, how I loathe the cowardly murderers who shoot policemen in the back at mass and call it war. I hope that all such gunmen may be caught and hanged. I honour those Irish Roman Catholic priests and bishops who denounced the 'gunmen,' but what are we to think of those who kept silence whether priests or Sinn Fein leaders? Any Irishman who, like myself, wishes to see Ireland a nation inside the British Empire and knows how easily that ideal could be realized with a little mutual generosity and sensible concessions by the two nations in Ireland, any such Irishman finds the present state of his

country dark and hateful beyond words."

There are doubtless many Irishmen who feel as Mr. O'Regan does on this subject but only those living out of Ireland dare express their sentiments with the freedom which he allows himself. Were he in Ireland this letter would be his death warrant. The phrase in it which especially strikes us is "How easily that ideal could be realized." But for the insanity of the extreme wing of Sinn Fein Ireland might be a nation to-morrow. Is it too much to hope that moderate men in Ireland will soon pluck up courage to assert themselves and refuse to allow a few scoundrels to ruin the country? The Home Rule Bill is not perfect—no Bill is—but it put the government of Ireland into the hands of Irishmen. Wisely used and honestly administered, it will bring peace and prosperity to the land instead of the terror and suspicion which now darkens the day.

MR. SHAW STILL UNVINDICATED

Jan. 26.

OUR readers will scarcely have forgotten the case of Mr. G. L. Shaw, the British merchant of Antung, who was arrested by Japanese gendarmes on July 11 last at Shingishu, the Korean frontier station, nominally because he had no passport although he had but a few hours before been admitted without one; and after being kept in gaol for nearly four months, untried, and in circumstances of great hardship, was released on bail of Yen 1,500. It will be recalled that Mr. Shaw announced openly from the first that he did not mean to submit to such treatment and that he would move heaven and earth to obtain vindication, an apology and reparation. He did not return to his home in Antung until November 19, though released on November 3, having prudently waited in Seoul until he could extract from the Japanese authorities a statement to the effect that they had no objection to his leaving the country. Since then, to judge by the following telegram received by us yesterday, Mr. Shaw appears to have been in Tokio pressing his case, unhappily without effect. The

telegram is dated January 24 by radio from the M.M.S. Paul Lecat:—

Am arriving on Wednesday en route for London, after a stay in Japan of some months and several conferences with the Ambassador, all quite resultless. Am informed that the negotiations in London between the Foreign Office and the Japanese Embassy have been concerned with the return of the bail money only, but the Japanese still refuse to comply, formally although over six months have passed since my arrest. I have formally demanded, in writing, vindication, an apology and compensation, and have handed this demand to the Ambassador in person. The question is one of vital international importance to the entire British nation, the first case of its kind in history.

The unreserved sympathy which, it is no exaggeration to say, the whole British community of the Far East feels for Mr. Shaw, cannot but be tinged with indignation at the apparent supineness of those whose duty it is to protect British citizens and uphold British prestige. No one is blind to the difficulties of the case. The Japanese authorities in Korea made a mistake in arresting Mr. Shaw and they do not relish eating humble pie. But that mistake was very glaring, very public, and one of a kind for which the honour of any nation, in any part of the world, would demand redress. We do not think that, if the case had been reversed, supposing such a thing possible, Japan would have allowed six months to elapse without reparation. That the Foreign Office is trying for no more than to get back the bail money—as Mr. Shaw has been officially informed—is almost an adding of insult to injury. To Mr. Shaw the money is nothing, the vindication everything. But it is difficult to avoid feeling that the greater responsibility rests with the Embassy in Tokio, whose representations, addressed directly to the centre of all power in Japan, should be of far more effect and directness than Foreign Office communications in London, which are most likely to be watered down on their way from the Japanese Embassy to Tokio. There are held in some quarters, we regret to say, suspicions that His Majesty's Ambassador in Tokio was, at the beginning, less alert to recognize the true bearings of Mr. Shaw's arrest than the facts of the case and

the principle at stake required; and this belief, whether ill or well founded, is widely enough held, one would have thought, to call for the greater energy now on behalf, not only of Mr. Shaw, but of the welfare of British citizens in general.

The issue whereon Mr. Shaw takes his stand can be put in the simplest terms: if he has done wrong, let him by all means stand his trial; if no charge can be brought against him, then let full reparation be made him for what he has endured. The justice of that demand no people can or would deny, certainly not, we imagine, the Japanese, whose natural sensitiveness in matters of their own prestige must surely help them to understand the feeling of others on a point of honour. In this instance, a way out is made the easier by the fact that it is only provincial officials who have blundered and whose fault may be condoned on excess of zeal, when they have made amends. But that those amends are necessary will, we are convinced, be recognized by all sober-thinking Japanese, who know very well that no apology, where justly called for, can be so dishonouring as is the refusal to accord it.

EGYPT'S DEMAND FOR INDEPENDENCE

Jan. 27.

WHILE the cable service, upon which Shanghai depends for its news, is fairly full, it occasionally omits political news of the first importance. Such criticism may be levelled in connexion with the Egyptian crisis which prevailed two months ago. It will be remembered that when the Milner mission was appointed for the purpose of finally settling all disputes raised by the Egyptian demand for autonomy and the substitution of a working agreement between Great Britain and the protectorate in question, it was hoped that a definite settlement would be made of the questions emphasized by the events of 1919 and 1920. The proposals then advanced were welcomed as a happy basis for negotiation out of which, it was hoped, would be evolved complete Egyptian independence. Three months negotiations led to these proposals being established crystal-

lized in a concrete form and a period for their discussion was allowed the Egyptian delegation, notwithstanding that they had previously been accepted, mutually, as a basis for accord. The conclusions arrived at during Lord Milner's stay in Egypt laid down the lines of a totally new policy for Great Britain to pursue towards the land of the Nile. They gave an almost absolute degree of self-government to Egypt, except in so far as Imperial interests were concerned. In this respect reservations were made with a view to preserving such rights to the Empire as should maintain its position and communication with the Eastern world, and to protect the substantial rights of all British officials who would, henceforth, be servants of the new Egyptian Government. These proposals were agreed upon between the parties, and, as they stood, represented the whole of the concession the Empire was agreeable to making.

As we have said, for some reason or other the whole of the proposals were sent back for consideration in Egypt and in October the delegation returned to London, not at all ready to seal the agreement previously arrived at, but to advance certain very far-reaching amendments. The first and most important of these was a request that the Protectorate should be abolished in terms as specific as those in which the Treaty replacing it was to be framed. The remaining claims of the delegation dealt with secondary points designed to guard against the possibility of encroaching control by British officials and to assure to Egypt her complete independence so far as British interests were not concerned. Plainly, these proposals were not acceptable. Official reasons for the Cabinet's decision are not, apparently, public, but the strategic position of Egypt both politically and militarily speaking, would afford a host of sufficiently good objections to what the Egyptians asked. One, however, will serve. The surrender of the protectorate, with the substitution of a Treaty therefor, involves two considerations. Firstly, the recognition of Egypt's absolute sovereignty and secondly, her right to enter into an agreement subject to eventual denunciation. For that right, although it may not have

been specifically included in the proposed instrument between Great Britain and Egypt, is an attribute of a sovereign people. The Cabinet did not accept these amendments and the position in Egypt thus reverts more or less to the *status quo* before 1919, with the possibilities of further disorder in the Protectorate.

The unreasonableness of the claims advanced by the Egyptians, for, whom Great Britain is responsible to the League of Nations, may be realized by a comparison between their position and that of the great self-governing Dominions. In the granting of independence, partial or whole, to colonies, dependencies or protectorates, Great Britain is faced with a very grave problem. Independence, though modified by treaty, is none the less really absolute independence, for any colony capable of negotiating a treaty even though only with the Mother Country becomes automatically on an equal footing with the other party and, *ipso facto*, obtains recognition of sovereign rights which in common justice can no further be questioned. The granting of such rights, no matter what the consideration, either involves separation from the Empire, or places in the hands of the owners of those rights the power of separation at some future time. Thus it will be seen that by granting such privileges Great Britain may be shearing herself of those attributes which have been her greatness in the past, until by a process of autonomous reduction the United Kingdom may stand alone, bound only to her sons and daughters by treaties which the latter may eventually terminate. It may well be that those ties of kinship upon which so much trust was successfully based during the War will stand the strain which future years may place upon them; and in the case of Egypt it might even be found that Great Britain had lost nothing political or military by agreeing to the amendments proposed. But such an experiment in the present conditions of the Near and Middle East is too dangerous to make and it is, at present, asking too much of any British Cabinet to require it to give to an alien country, over which the Empire has to exercise a protectorate, that degree of autonomy which it does not give to Colonies overwhelmingly British in population.

CANTON AND THE CUSTOMS

Jan. 28.

It must be admitted that the memorandum recently presented to the Diplomatic Body by the Canton Government on the question of the Customs surplus, which we reproduce in full to-day, is skilfully argued, and so framed as to elicit all possible public sympathy for the Southern request, especially in respect of the abolition of gambling. By what we can learn, this claim is no more than the truth. For the time being at any rate, gambling has been put down so severely that the shops are afraid even to sell Chinese dominoes. And for this act Canton certainly deserves credit and favourable consideration for any feasible request. The splitting up of the Customs revenue and machinery, however, is quite another matter. But on this subject Canton has a trump card to play. If the Diplomatic Body were agreeable to allowing the Southwestern Government a share in the Customs surplus from July, 1919, till March, 1920, when Dr. Wu Ting-fang fled from Canton, they have no logical reason for withholding it now.

The answer is that the Diplomatic Body, in this matter, are guided not by logic but by opportunism. They stopped the paying over of the surplus in March, 1920, partly because of the split in the Southwestern Federation which Dr. Wu Ting-fang's departure for Shanghai connoted; and partly, no doubt, because of the legal proceedings taken against Dr. Wu by his former associates in Canton for the recovery of the Customs money. These two events gave the Diplomatic Body a welcome chance of putting an end to an arrangement which they should never have permitted; and by this latest decision it cannot but be hoped they will abide, whether it be in respect of Customs or Salt, Canton or Manchuria. The inconsistency of the diplomatic action cannot unfortunately be denied. But this is of less moment than that the Customs should be saved from being split up into little bits. For that is precisely what Canton demands. The memorial argues ingeniously that as it is the *de facto* situation which has to be faced, and as Peking has no real control over the provinces nominally under its jurisdiction so

"instead of encouraging disunion, the Diplomatic Corps will, on the contrary, be assisting the present popular movement for provincial autonomy, with which all friendly Powers and friends of China are heartily in sympathy."

The catch in that sentence lies in the meaning to be attached to the words "provincial autonomy." No friend of China would favour more local self-government than exists, for example, in America. The provinces might be self-governing in purely local matters, but they would remain bound together in a federation to which all would contribute, and national revenues for national purposes would continue to be collected and administered by the Central Government. But Canton's conception of provincial autonomy means splitting up the country into an undefined number of princedoms or republics. And when talking of *de facto* situations, let it not be forgotten that the one vital financial fact in China to-day where all else is fluid is the stability and coherence of the Customs and Salt Gabelle, and that this must be defended at all costs. If one province tampers with their solidity unchecked, the whole fabric will very soon crumble to nothingness.

As our readers recollect, the rejection by the Legations of this memorial was followed by an announcement that the Canton Government would henceforth treat all the Customs in its domain as under its jurisdiction and that it would take possession of all the revenues accruing, duly remitting to the Inspector-General its share of what was necessary for foreign loan service. That this declaration goes far beyond what the memorial asks for, is some indication of Canton's temper. While Peking has steadily been growing weaker, Canton, having expelled the Kuangsi party, has grown, if not stronger (for its boasted power over all Kuangtung, Kueichow and Yunnan is very questionable) at any rate much bolder, and it will not give up the Customs money without a struggle. Foreign merchants can be instructed to pay their dues direct into the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank in Shameen: foreigners would be as ready to do so as the British. But the Chinese merchants are in a different case and if the Government bids them pay to the Bank of China and appropriates their payments, it is not easy to see what can be done.

NOTES & COMMENTS

Less Cost Less Wage

The announcement that an attempt is to be made at Home to reduce wages proportionately to the falling prices is interesting and hopeful. Some time ago a writer in the "Fortnightly" said that what the trade unions really ought to press for is lower, not higher, wages and prices in correspondence; and in view of the importance of the ability of foreign markets to buy, that is undoubtedly a sound principle. On the other hand one sees with concern the proposal to commit the Government to a State dole for unemployment. The only possible way of achieving this is by a scheme of national insurance with regular contributions by the insured. Why should the artisan class alone be thus cosseted? We write with no lack of sympathy for the continual fear of unemployment in which they live. But they are far better off than the clerk class. Their wages, in employment, are higher, their insecurity of tenure is no greater, and they have unions to protect them, which clerks do not have. Moreover these unemployment doles are open to the grossest abuse, even encouraging it, as was found in the case of war workers, to whom the Government was making weekly allowances after the war, pending their obtaining other employment. The common mistake nowadays is to look on the Treasury as a sort of lucky-bag into which everybody can dip without having immediate and bad effects on themselves in common with everyone else.

A Rival to Shanghai

We are told by the "Philippines Herald" that Shanghai as a port is soon to have a formidable rival—a place named Sanmenwan in the Ninghai region in Nimrod Sound southwards of Ningpo. The Chinese Government is to be asked to help; but the new port is to be financed and carried through largely by overseas Chinese, and when the scheme has come to fruition "Shanghai as well as the other well-known seaports in the Far East will have a very great rival in so far as industrial, commercial, and manufacturing activities are concerned." The Ningpo papers could talk of nothing else but this new port a few weeks ago and the Chinese press also got interested in it. Of such schemes we have heard before, but their accomplishment, whole or partial, has not yet ruined Shanghai. In any event, there seems little reason for this port to fear the competition of others. Once the country has been developed, not only will local expansion be a necessity, but ports of considerable magnitude will be required at many points on the coast. A China properly run can support an indefinite number of Shanghaies.

What Next Industrially?

The struggle of Labour in Great Britain against acceptance of the reduced earnings which short time means is only one part of a larger question—whether Labour can hold on to its present wages in view of the depression in industry and the ever increasing competition from abroad. Apart altogether from variations in currency British workmen are more highly paid than any others in Europe, and it is only by a continuance of trade prosperity that the country can afford to give them these wages. As far back as October Lord Weir struck a warning note when he said:

The maintenance of to-day's standard of living is impossible under to-day's conditions of volume and efficiency of production. No improvement in the standard of living of our people will be possible until our productivity is not only enormously increased, but is much more efficiently secured.

That was before the present unemployment situation had developed, and it is doubtful whether Lord Weir could put it as mildly to-day. For not only is the standard of living jeopardized but the whole question of any wages whatsoever is at stake for continually increasing numbers. When our produce—coal for instance—is no longer saleable, owing to its cost, there must be a shrinkage in the amount of money coming to somebody, and if shareholders bear their proportion, it seems more than probable that Labour as a whole will be unable to withstand the pressure towards lower wages.

The Newest in Art

I sit in a boat and think of life and time
How life is much, but time is more
And the beginning is everything
But the end is something.

So carolled "Q" many years ago in imitation of Walt Whitman, and the parody was deemed clever enough to be admitted to the critical columns of the "Oxford Magazine." It would seem, then, that *vers libre* is not quite so new a form of art as its admirers would have us believe. On the other hand it is evidently capable of far richer variety than Walt Whitman ever dreamed of—as witness this exquisite specimen from one of the youngest, most daring, most soulful of our free versifiers:—

Silence broods
Like a prophetic
Over the
Pentonville Road
Suddenly a cry as of
A creature
In pain.
Bloody Bill
With the thin edge
Of a wedge
Has murdered his wife
Again.

Is it genuine? Or is it a perfect parody of one of the most preposterous parades of rubbish that ever imposed itself on the world as an expression of art? We shall know when the local admirers of *vers libre* begin to write us indignant letters.

The Hunt for Passages

In a recent article we explained some of the difficulties at present facing shipping companies and the effect the diversion of cargo-carriers had upon the number of local passages available. While this is all important to the man who wishes to go Home, there is another point to which attention cannot be drawn too often or too strongly, and that is how those desirous of travelling are themselves hampering the free use of the limited accommodation. Most prospective passengers place their names on the lists of all the steamship companies with the idea of missing no opportunity of a berth, but by so doing it very often happens that they receive several offers at once. One is accepted, and the other shipping companies have then to start over again and offer the passage to the next on their books. Again it happens that when somebody obtains a much desired passage he takes no steps to inform the other companies on whose lists his name appears. The result is that when these companies have a vacancy they proceed to write to the person first on their list and some time may elapse before they learn that he or she has gone. This is valuable time, for when it has been spent there is often no hope of letting some other applicant know soon enough for him to complete his packing. Accordingly every now and then a boat leaves Shanghai with vacant berths, and some unfortunates, either here or up-country, are yet further delayed. Cooperation on the part of intending passengers is something which the shipping companies have every right to expect, and the sooner it is accorded by the public the easier will the question of passages become.

The Anti-Bolsheviks

The Japanese Publicity Bureau of Vladivostok gives prominence to an interview by the Associated Press with Kerensky who is now at work in Paris. In this Kerensky says:—

The plan to restore all Russia by deposing Lenin and Trotsky is progressing splendidly. It is my belief that if the military and economic side of the scheme were to be made public, the world would stand amazed.

After Kerensky's failure to make anything of the Russian situation when he held the reins of power, and considering how easily he fell a victim to the Bolshevik intrigues then afoot, one may be excused for taking the last phrase in a sense that Kerensky hardly means. While in power Kerensky stood for purity of government, but the idealist was no match for the unscrupulous but withal practical men who were intent upon turning Russia red. It is just possible, although hardly probable, that had he displayed less idealism and a better appreciation of the hard facts of the military situation, which were apparently plain to his temporary colleague Korniloff, he might have succeeded, but as matters turned out he

neither gave himself nor Korniloff a chance. Such being the case, it seems too much to expect that the idealist of 1917 can become the practical saviour of his country in the present year.

Poison Gas

There has been a pretty controversy in England as to whether scientists should assist the War Office in researches for fresh media of destruction. In time of war, of course, there is no possible moral restraint on the chemist: when the Germans used poison gas, rendering it necessary for us to retaliate, it was a moral obligation to discover the deadliest gas which could be used against the enemy. But while we are nominally at peace, and our existence is not threatened as it was in 1915, have our scientists a moral right to prepare the way for added horrors of war? No satisfactory reply seems forthcoming, at least the objectors are not prepared to be convinced. One important point, however, is put by General Sir Bindon Blood. Poison gas has been introduced into warfare, and will no doubt reappear in any future war. We have to be ready to meet it with counter-measures. Against an enemy that does use it we are entitled to bring the most deadly products of our laboratories, and that immediately, not risking a delay of three or four months as was the case in 1915. The elimination of warfare is not possible so long as human nature remains what it is, and in such circumstances it is the duty of the War Office to keep abreast of all modern discoveries. To those who have a profound horror of war, even a war of self-defence, the moral objection is undoubtedly strong, but equally it may be said on the other side that there is a moral obligation.

What Will Endure?

One wonders what the future will think of the extraordinary productions which we are called on by the elect to reverence nowadays as the only true and genuine form of art. A few months ago the "Connoisseur" published a reproduction of "Battery Shelled" by Mr. Wyndham Lewis, one of the "leading" post-impressionists, which has been acquired at the nation's expense for the Imperial War Museum. The only possible excuse for this expenditure is that, as war is a madness, it is historically important to have as complete a collection as possible of its various manifestations. The "Connoisseur's" reproduction is very clear and one can identify various objects evidently meant to be soldiers. But what the rest of the thing represents it is literally impossible to tell. Statuary also appears to be afflicted with the same madness, judging by the pictures one has seen of the new Abraham Lincoln statue (we forget the sculptor's name); and jazz music is undoubtedly mad. On the other hand jazz certainly succeeds in

achieving something: abandoning beauty of outline and form, it produces a sort of iridescence, it intoxicates, it tempts the most inexperienced feet to dance with its irresistible, topsy-turvy rhythm. On the whole jazz seems worthier of the name of art than any of the strange modes of expression that we use to-day. But so much of it depends on the madness of the individual performer, that unless gramophone records are stored away in museums, one doubts whether the future will be able to make much of it.

Japan and Siberia

Two events have recently brought the position of Japanese forces in Siberia into prominent notice. First, the unhappy shooting of Lieut. Langdon; secondly, of Mr. Hara's and Viscount Uchida's statements in the Diet and the strong though moderately-worded criticism of Viscount Kato. As far back as last July we pointed out that a continued occupation of any part of Siberia was fraught with the utmost danger for Japan, but the Langdon affair has introduced a type of peril which could hardly have been foreseen. Not the least unfortunate aspect of it is that it serves to inflame Japanese public opinion. Following the report that Americans were no longer to be challenged by Japanese sentries, the more Jingoistic of the vernacular papers are leading an attack upon the Government for its "weak policy" *vis-à-vis* of the United States, which they declare, is always subservient to America. It is not for the world's good that popular temper should be heated at a time like the present when complex and delicate questions have to be settled, and more especially when, as Mr. Rodney Gilbert points out, a rumour-factory with its destructive output is hard at work in Peking.

Chang Hsun Again

Chang Hsun's name has seldom been absent from political discussions these many months back. According to reports from Peking he is again being pushed for the post of Inspector of Kiangsu, Anhui and Kiangsi as hard as Manchuria's overlord can push him. This, of course, is no new story; he has been a candidate for the position for long; but the reason assigned for Chang Tso-lin's present anxiety that he should occupy the post is not without interest. Little Hsu is the cause, his suspected comings and goings between Shanghai (?) and Tsingtao are causing disquiet. He was most inconvenient to office-holders in Peking when there with his frontier force, and prior to his downfall was a source of danger to all opponents. He must, therefore, be kept quiet, and accordingly, could it be arranged, the strategical position on the Yangtze would be given to Chang Hsun who is apparently regarded as strong enough to render Little Hsu innocuous. In these provinces Chang Hsun, the old

war-horse that he is, possesses something of a reputation. He had to retreat from Nanking in 1911, but thereafter defied all comers in his stronghold up the Tientsin-Pukou Railway. Then he came back and captured Nanking in 1913, and when complaints of looting were made to him he lopped off a few heads and hung them up on trees to encourage the others. A man of action undoubtedly, and so the right one for Chang Tso-lin against Little Hsu.

Dancing Gone Mad

Paris has "licked creation," we read, in the matter of dancing. She is introducing no fewer than three futurist dances: the machine-gun, the shrapnel and the airman's dance. A poet of futurist tendencies is the culprit. Being conservative enough to love the waltz and confessing unashamed to many happy moments during the lancers, we trust that remorse will be his lot. So far we have only read a brief description of one of these measure's, the airman's dance, and that simply tells us that the dancers imitate the motions of a monoplane starting on a flight and soaring away. A cheerful theme for a dance without doubt, but we should imagine that if the dancers really try to soar away they run great risk of making the performance rather too realistic by crashing. The shrapnel dance should be easy enough, for it is only necessary to turn up at any dancing hall and see people who remind one instinctively of a creeping barrage. There are also plenty of duds, to heighten the effect. What to make of the machine-gun dance, however, puzzles us, for although there are men, and even women, who can talk as fast as a machine-gun firing, we have never seen a dance that was anything like the real thing. Even kitchen lancers or jigtime quadrilles are not anywhere near it.

Anglo-Chinese Cooperation

Mr. J. O. P. Bland's remark, in "Shanghai Revisited," on the great possibilities open to cooperative foreign-Chinese enterprises, gives special interest to a leaflet issued by the Kiangnan Dock & Engineering Works. Reprinted from "Engineering & Industrial Management" it deals with shipbuilding in China in general and Kiangnan in particular. Sixteen years ago, it points out, the Kiangnan Dockyard as such did not exist, but there was a so-called dry dock which was little more than a mudhole, without either machine shops or building slips. In 1905 Admiral Yeh, then in command of the Chinese Navy—an officer brought up under British traditions—realized the ridiculous position of a country with a navy but no suitable dockyard, and he took the steps which led to the splendidly organized works we see to-day. Mr. R. B. Mauchan was engaged as superintendent, and his efforts consistently received the support of Admiral

Yeh and the other directors. In the light of Mr. Bland's remarks a few sentences dealing with this mutual support deserve attention:—

It is this cooperation between the East and the West which has proved so successful. Without the wholehearted support of the directors and government officials in Peking, the European staff, from the superintendent downwards, could have done very little, and in their turn the directors have been able to rely upon the loyalty of the European staff. In this there is a lesson to be learned by all foreigners who come to China to develop her natural and industrial resources. It is not only necessary that the foreign staff should be technicians of the highest attainments, but they must have the courage to stand by their opinions and be able to prove by the quality of their work that they are worthy of the positions they hold.

The Traffic Problem

The correspondent "Pedestrian" whose letter appears in another column revives the hoary annual concerning motor traffic in a manner which is hardly likely to assist much towards a final solution of Shanghai's troubles. What he says of our streets here is true of every road in the world planned and built more than 30 years ago. They were all designed to accommodate slow-moving vehicles. With regard to his suggestion that motor-cars should, by regulation, be limited to a speed of 10 miles per hour, modern practice in cities rather more important than Shanghai is against him. In England speed limits have been or are being totally abolished. Nor is it reasonable to suggest that the ordinary person is capable of judging the speed of a motor car with sufficient accuracy to enable the authorities to act upon it. And the idea of a motorist being persecuted until he agrees with a pedestrian's ideas of what is a correct speed for his vehicle is, to say the least, a little unusual. The real point is that all users of roads are morally bound to observe ordinary caution. None has any more rights in this respect than the other, and a careless pedestrian is just as much a road hog as the careless motor-driver.

Chinese Flour

It is to be wondered what is behind the present scare, fomented by the London press, relating to the "peril of Chinese flour." Possibly it is merely a yellow press "stunt," for the Government's statement that the quality of wheat from China was satisfactory ought, in these days of food shortage, to have been sufficient to end such alarms. That consignments may abound in maggots and weevils is not, we believe, a rare occurrence for Chinese or other wheat long in travelling, while the suggestion of a doctor that many of his patients are suffering from gastro-enteritis and dermatitis due to Chinese flour will seem a little far-fetched unless it is proved that this was their sole diet. The press campaign against the Chinese in London, when much that was unfair was written, seems all of a piece with this agitation.

CHINESE POLITICS

CONSORTIUM'S AIM FOR CHINA

Important Statement by Sir
Charles Addis: the
Railway Policy

London, Jan. 22.

At a dinner given in honour of Mr. Sidney Mayers, Peking representative of the British and Chinese Corporation, Ltd., and Chinese Central Railways, Ltd., who is shortly returning to Peking, Sir Charles Addis, manager of the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation, London, described the new Chinese Consortium as in effect an offer to help China out of her present difficulties and to co-operate with China with a view to establishing a strong stable Central Government. He emphasized that each Power in the Consortium had expressly disclaimed the intention of seeking any separate national advantages, while it was no part of the Consortium to interfere or restrict private enterprise. He declared that at present, the Consortium's policy was necessarily a railway policy.

Mr. Mayers pointed out that the Consortium's ultimate aim, namely unification of all railways under one uniform system, would not be fulfilled until the Chinese Government had adopted the principles whereby new lines should be divested entirely of the character of concessions granted to any particular nationality and should be administered free of interference on the part of local authorities, while their surplus revenues should be devoted to the further development of a coordinated railway system.—Reuter.

The Whereabouts of Little Hsu

Little Hsu continues to be the object of a variety of tales in the Chinese press.

Two days ago the report was that he had departed for Tsingtao, in company with Wang I-tang. Next we hear that his destination is Hongkong, while a third report sets him down comfortably in Nagasaki. The latest story is that he has "secretly departed for Nan-king," there to engage with plots among the brigands for a disturbance in celebration of the New Year. In this connexion, it is darkly hinted that the conspirators will make Shanghai their base!

The gem of the various stories, however, is that all have been concocted by Chinese special detectives for the purpose of drawing upon the official purse in the ardour of investigation.

FRENCH CULTIVATION OF CHINA

Paris, Jan. 23.

The French press is giving Dr. Chen Lu, the new Chinese Minister to Paris, a warm welcome, pointing out that the distinguished diplomat is a former student of Paris University, where he took up the degree of Doctor of Law.

To a representative of "Le Journal," Dr. Chen-lu stated that his chief aim would be to make still more intimate the bonds happily uniting the French and Chinese Republics, which, however, did not know one another well enough.

China could offer an inexhaustible supply of raw materials, while France could send engineers, mechanics and other technical men, whom China needed badly, the Doctor concluded.

Because of his real love for France and his profound comprehension of French life and civilization, Dr. Chen-lu is sure to be *persona grata* here, and in a position to render his own country invaluable services.—Reuter.

French Commercial School in Shanghai

Paris, Jan. 20.

The Chinese Cabinet has authorized the Minister of Finance to furnish funds for the establishment at Shanghai of a commercial school under the joint direction of the French and Chinese Governments. The French Government will contribute £3,000 towards the cost of erection, and the two Governments have undertaken to share the running expenses, which are calculated at £13,000 per annum.—French Wireless through Reuter.

An American Embassy in China

Washington, Jan. 24.

A sub-committee of the House of Representatives, in presenting the budget of the diplomatic and consular service for the ensuing fiscal year, recommend a reduction of 25 per cent. in the estimates.

The budget provides for an Embassy in China instead of a Legation, and also for separate Legations at Vienna and Budapest in view of the separation of Austria-Hungary.—Reuter.

ACCORDING to a report in the "Japan Gazette" prohibition is having an adverse effect on the Chinese liquor industry. "Ng Ka Py," a Chinese liquor which the Chinese merchants in San Francisco have been importing from Tientsin and Shanghai as medicine, is now under the ban of the Prohibition authorities. Early in December 14,000 cases of "Ng Ka Py," valued at \$500,000, were held up by United States officials. This measure was taken by the local agents of the United States Government by instruction from the Prohibition Commissioner at Washington. It seems that the sources of this liquor supply are located in Tientsin. "Ng Ka Py," it is claimed, contains alcohol ranging from 50 to 100 per cent. When the Chinese merchants submitted samples of this liquor to the Federal authorities for examination they were found to be innocuous, evidently containing little or no alcohol in them. But the Federal authorities have since discovered that the real "Ng Ka Py," a large quantity of which is held up in the bonded warehouses in San Francisco, is very different from the samples and contains a large percentage of alcohol.

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VIEWS OF THE CHINESE PRESS

Szechuan's Latest Ambitions—Hostilities Among the Tuchuns—

The Unpaid Soldier and Afflicted Merchants—

Springs to Catch Woodcocks

There is always a quota of interesting subjects to be drawn from the kaleidoscopic developments and changes in the political situation in China furnishing material for discussion in the Chinese Press. The attitude of Szechuan toward Peking had for some time been a puzzle to most of us, appearing to be repentant and loyal at one time but strained and even hostile at another. Outsiders failed to grasp the real situation until a fortnight ago, when General Hsiong Keh-wu, in a circular telegram despatch from Chungking, clearly elucidated his own position and the aspiration with the Central Government may be gathered. A few days later, another circulating telegram, signed jointly by General Liu Hsiang and a number of other commanders of divisions and brigades, reached the vernacular papers, in which the Peking Government was openly charged with insincerity, indifference and treachery, and Szechuan reasserted its independence and autonomy, owing allegiance to none. By the way, the self-government movement is spreading in other provinces as well: North and South are showing the same enthusiasm in this connexion.

WOEFUL TALES FROM THE PROVINCES.

Matters in Hunan are by no means settled. Internally, jealousy and dissension seem to be rife; and fighting has taken place spasmodically between several petty barons. Externally, it is again threatened with invasion by Li Lieh-chün's roaming bands. A telegraphic appeal for succour, submitted to Peking through Inspector-General Wang Chan-yuan has only elicited the disappointing reply that inasmuch as Hunan has not openly cancelled its independence and renewed its allegiance to Peking, the Cabinet has regretfully decided that nothing can be done; Tuchun Wang is, however, ordered to reinforce the garrisons of the border counties of Hupeh as a precaution against any possible attack by Li's men.

The animosity displayed by Tuchun Wang Chan-yuan against Civil Governor Hsia Shou-kong has broken out afresh after lying dormant for some time, as he is reported to have instigated certain prominent men of Hupeh to impeach Hsia and demand his removal from his post.

From Kiangsi, news of a possible clash between Tuchun Chen Kuang-yuan and General Chang Tsung-ch'ang has been received here. The division of troops commanded by Chang, it will be remembered, were forced to beat a hasty retreat from Hunan into Kiangsi, where in Tuchun Chen had to graciously grant them permission to stay, when he perceived that he was not strong enough to eject them by

force. They have since stationed themselves in Yuanchow and its vicinity, eking out a precarious living on whatever they could levy on merchants or raise by other means. With the exception of the amount which Chang obtained from Peking when he made a personal trip for it several months ago, he is said to have received nothing as "pay" for his troops, neither the Minister of War nor Tuchun Chen Kuang-yuan having heeded his repeated appeals. He is reported to have redistributed his forces so that he is occupying forty more li southward, and one of his brigades is said to be marching towards Nanchang.

DISBANDMENT SCHEMES.

The scheme of disbanding troops reported to have been definitely adopted by Premier Chin Yun-peng is generally scoffed at as unenforceable without the consent and cooperation of the tuchuns. On this question, the "Sinwan-pao" has published an article entitled "Turn our Soldiers into Workers," while the "Shunpao" have suggested the feasibility of Kiangsu setting a worthy example to the rest of the country by employing its soldiers in the construction of good roads to link up all important cities and commercial ports throughout this province, and at the same time establishing vocational training depôts at which soldiers might be taught a trade or some handicraft.

Chang Tso-lin is reported to be against urging the President to appoint Chang Hsün to be Inspector-General of Kiangsu, Anhui and Kiangsi, since General Wang Shih-chen, the present incumbent, appears so unwilling to assume office. The Chinese Press declare that they will oppose anyone taking up this post, the abolition of which has been so persistently demanded by the people of the three provinces concerned; and that they are really puzzled as regards the reason why the Government is so bent upon keeping such a bone of contention in existence.

ALL LOANS UNPOPULAR.

As of wont, the Government has been moving heaven and earth in order to obtain all sorts of loans to meet its obligations before the lunar new year dawns. The Chinese Press in Shanghai now unanimously object to any kind of loan, whatever fanciful and ingenious name the Government may choose to give it, whether domestic or foreign, and even for constructive, industrial or productive purposes, because the Chinese people have lost all confidence in the good faith of their Government, and since financial difficulties at the close of the lunar year are recurrent while they must

put an end to the reckless policy of borrowing loans.

Regarding the famine relief loan just concluded, they accept it as an expedient of necessity. While thankful to the foreign banks for their kind help in China's dire distress, they cannot help feeling keenly about their own inability to meet the situation and about the loss of "face" by their Government in acceding to the "supervision clause," which, they hope, will not be regarded as a precedent when future loans for other purposes should be discussed.

The clumsy attempt by the Government to impose new taxes in the name of developing education and industry is severely criticized. The fate of the University of the Southwest, to whose promoters Dr. Wu Ting-fang has promised to subscribe \$1,000,000 on behalf of the Military Government, is awaited with interest now that the injunction against withdrawing the deposit of the Customs surplus revenue from the bank is removed. Much caustic comment has been made against the administration of the Tsin-Pu Railway, as a result of another collision between the 58th Up-Train and the 15th Down-Train having occurred on that line on Sunday morning.

PROTECTION OF FOREIGNERS.

Of local questions, in the development of the Woosung Commercial Port, the article in the "North-China Daily News" is referred to as worthy of notice, especially the advice it offers regarding the employment of efficient and experienced men. The three cases of robbery occurring in one night last week should arouse some serious thinking on the part of leading citizens. As winter usually breeds more criminals than any other season, the "Sinwan-pao" asks its readers to probe deeply into the matter in order to consider what has impelled those unfortunate offenders to break the law, to view their cases in a more sympathetic and charitable spirit and, if possible, to devise ways and means to improve their conditions for which every well-to-do person should consider himself or herself responsible. Support is solicited for China's tottering tea trade and silk industry. The advent of a Sino-French Industrial and Commercial School in Shanghai is hailed with delight. "The protection of foreigners, the subject dealt within a leading article of the "North-China Daily News," which has appeared in various forms of transliteration in the Chinese papers, and of which a special translation has been made by order of the President and sent to all the provinces through the Cabinet, should begin by the disbanding of troops in earnest, as the mere issuing of an order can achieve no appreciable result, declares the "Sinwanpao."

DURING the past few days, the Chinese press reports, 70,000 or 80,000 bags of third class flour have been despatched to the famine regions.

OUTPORTS

CANTON'S CLAIM TO CUSTOMS MONEY

Attempt to Persuade Legations to Surrender Southern Revenues

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Jan. 18.

Mr. Quo Tai-chi, formerly secretary to ex-President Li Yuan-hung, who recently arrived in Peking as the representative of the Canton government, has approached various members of the Diplomatic Body in an effort to negotiate the release of a share of the Customs surplus to the Cantonese. In this work he has been far from successful up to the present time, but he is now planning to submit a formal memorandum on the subject to the Diplomatic Body, setting forth Canton's claims to a share in the surplus.

The feeling among foreigners generally on this score is that they are not inclined to see Sun Wen and company acquire funds to boost another hocus-pocus government, but, at the same time, when it comes to a choice between giving everything to Peking to foster Peking's game, or sharing the available money with Kuangtung, it looks as though Kuangtung had as good a claim to indulgence as the North. What everyone would like to do is to withhold the entire surplus and put it somewhere where it will draw interest until such time as the Chinese people have evolved a representative Government and are in a position to spend it to their own profit.

A PREMIUM ON DISCUSSION.

This, however, is not feasible and, since the surplus cannot be held in trust for China but must be turned over to one or another of the groups of officials which exploit China's unpreparedness to administer a representative Government, it is easy to adduce strong arguments for giving a share to any province which establishes a Government on an autonomous basis and seems to be working along constructive lines.

The argument against this is that it puts a premium upon disunion, but it is an argument which the Legations cannot consistently advance, since they have already established a precedent by giving the Canton Military Government a share in the Customs proceeds commensurate with the importance of the provinces which acknowledged the supremacy of Canton. For these various reasons it is only fair to give the Cantonese group a hearing when they apply for a share of the Customs income which their provincials, who appear to acknowledge their authority, directly or indirectly contribute.

EDUCATIONAL NEEDS.

Mr. Quo Tai-chi's arguments, apart from those we have already cited, are that the Canton Government needs money for educational work, for conservancy and for the establishment of model district governments. He deprecates the description of the present régime in Canton as the "New Canton Government," insisting that there has been no essential change which affects foreign diplomacy, but that the civil element in the old régime has simply ousted the military element, which has hitherto offered every impediment to constructive reform in the South. He points out that as a measure of reform General Chen Chiung-ming has abolished licensed gambling and that the Government has sacrificed at least \$8,000,000 a year formerly drawn from this source. He believes that this should be sufficient pledge to the Powers of Canton's sincere desire for local reform and that this tendency deserves diplomatic support.

SOUTH FOR CONSTRUCTIVE WORK.

With regard to the Consortium, Mr. Quo says that the South neither desires nor expects loans for any purpose other than constructive. He says that if the Consortium is waiting for perfect peace in China and complete political unity before entering into negotiations for the construction of railways, no work will ever be done, but that if the Consortium sees fit to make arrangements with the provinces for railway work, ignoring all self-appointed Governments, the bankers will be in a position to promote a great deal of useful constructive work which, in the end, will be of educational value to the Chinese people and will lead to a social unity in China of more value than political unity.

As announced in previous telegrams the Canton Government has now cut the Gordian knot by declaring that the whole Customs service is under its control and will be administered for its benefit.—Ed.

A Counter-move to Canton

Canton, Jan. 19.

Maritime Customs officials here were reticent when questioned regarding the proposed taking over of the service by the Military Government.

A prominent foreign resident, when interviewed, stated that he feared that such action on the part of the Southern Government would call forth the disapproval of the leading Powers interested in the Customs Administration.

Another well-informed foreigner expressed the opinion that in the event of a dispute between the Military Government, and the Customs authorities, the Customs staffs would move from Canton to Shameen, and that importers would pay the duties there.—Reuter.

In August 1918 when the South-western Federation Government tried to get hold of the Customs funds, the British Consul-General said that, on

any such attempt, British merchants would be instructed to pay their dues direct to the H. & S. Bank on Shameen. This order, however, could not affect Chinese merchants if the Canton Government stuck to its plan.—Ed.

I. G. AND LEGATIONS QUITE FIRM.

Peking, Jan. 22.

Reuter learns that the attitude of the Inspector-General of Customs toward the proposal of the Canton Military Government to take over the administration of the Customs in the provinces under its control, is that he cannot admit any modification of the existing loan service arrangements, whereby the Maritime and native customs revenue from the Southern provinces is remitted to his account, and that any alteration which conflicts with China's international engagements can only be accepted with the unanimous approval of the Diplomatic Body as the representative of the other party to those engagements.

So far as is ascertainable there is not the least likelihood of the Diplomatic Corps giving its approval, as it is felt that nothing could contribute more to the permanent disruption of the country.—Reuter.

Canton Said to be Yielding

Peking, Jan. 25.

The Canton Administration is now showing a more accommodating attitude regarding the customs question, and will probably abandon its proposal to take over the Customs there.—Reuter.

POPULAR DEMONSTRATION PLANNED TO SUPPORT THE MOVE.

Canton, Jan. 24.

The Cantonese propose to hold a mass meeting and parade next week as a demonstration in favour of the Military Government taking over the Maritime Customs. Foreign interests in the South-West are averse from this action on the part of the Government.

The election of President of the South-West has been postponed until after the Chinese New Year.

The General Chamber of Commerce is willing to loan \$700,000 towards meeting the obligations of the Military Government falling due at the end of the year.

A LOAN WANTED.

Jan. 25.

The Government is considering the issue of reconstruction bonds for \$5,000,000, bearing interests at the rate of eight per cent., payable half-yearly. The land and field taxes will be the security for the loan, the issue price of which will be 95. The Provincial Bank of Kuangtung will be asked to undertake the promotion of the issue, the proceeds of which, it is declared, will be devoted to reconstruction purposes, and not to military operations or the promotion of other interests.—Reuter.

DIPLOMATIC WARNING.

Peking, Jan. 26.

The diplomatic body has instructed the Senior Consul at Canton to

inform Wu Ting-fang that the Powers will in no circumstances allow interference with the Customs service.—Reuter.

Canton Stands Firm

Canton, Jan. 27.

The Military Government has issued a further statement to the following effect: "Unnecessary alarm has been created by the report that the Military Government of the Republic of China at Canton is about to seize the Customs. The Military Government desires to put itself in the place of the so-called Peking Government in the Constitutionalist Provinces in taking this step, which is intended to open the eyes of the Peking Government, and to compel it to introduce sensible reforms, with the object of reuniting China.

"The Military Government will not in the least jeopardize the interests of foreign bond-holders or interfere with the existing management of the Customs. Any unreasonable opposition to the action of the Military Government will necessarily support the corrupt Peking Government in retarding the prospects of peace."—Reuter.

Persuasive Arguments Addressed to Diplomatic Body by Southern Envoy

The following is the full memorandum addressed by the Canton Government to the Diplomatic Body on the subject of its claim to the southern portion of the Customs surplus. It is an interesting document and its arguments are put with considerable cogency and skill.

The southern portion of the Customs revenue surplus which was, at the decision of the Diplomatic Corps, released to the Canton Government from July, 1919, to March, 1920, has since been withheld from the South owing to Dr. Wu Ting-fang's departure from Canton in March last, which destroyed the necessary quorum of the Administrative Council of the Military Government. During the interval between Dr. Wu's departure from Canton and his return to that city in November last together with Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Mr. Tang Shao-yi, and Gen. Tan Chi-yao's representative, Mr. Wang Pei-chun, there was no legally constituted Military Government at Canton. However, after the defeat of the militarist party by the liberal party in the South, the four Administrative Directors have resumed office and the Military Government at Canton has been re-established. This government is now incontestably in complete control over Kuangtung, Yunnan, and Kueichow Provinces.

THE PROHIBITION OF GAMBLING.

The Canton Government has made a formal application to the Diplomatic Corps for the release of the accumulated Customs surplus due to the South and of all future instalments when and as they become due. These funds are urgently needed to replace revenues that have been abolished for the

public good and to carry on useful and constructive works. One of the very first acts of the present Canton Government was the prohibition of all forms of gambling, an act which has deprived it of a great source of revenue amounting to more than \$8,000,000 a year. This is mentioned here not with the idea of claiming credit for a meritorious deed, but to bring out the fact that when there is so much to be undone as well as to be done after the terrible misrule of Kuangtung by the Kuangsi militarists, public interests will suffer owing to lack of funds required for useful and constructive purposes, of which a few instances may be cited.

CONSERVANCY WORK HELD UP.

The Kuangtung Conservancy Board, which used to receive an appropriation of \$60,000 out of every remittance to the South from the Customs surplus, is now greatly handicapped in its work because this supply of money has been stopped. The proposed South-western University, which is intended to become in time the intellectual centre of South China and for which an appropriation of \$800,000 has been made from the Customs funds, will not materialize so long as these funds are held up in the foreign banks. The Chinese department recently established at Lyons University in conjunction with the French Government is waiting to receive \$200,000 from the Customs surplus in order to carry on its work which is now at a standstill. The disbandment of troops which has been going on in Kuangtung would be greatly facilitated if funds were available for it.

LIBERALISM FOR MILITARISM.

It is to be observed that there has been no new government established at Canton; there has been merely a change in the personnel of that government, the substitution of the militarist element by the civilian and liberal element. The present Canton Government is just as much entitled to the southern portion of the Customs Surplus as the present Peking Government, after its succession to the Anfu Cabinet, was entitled to the Salt and Customs funds for the North. In granting the application of the Canton Government for the release of the Customs Surplus, the question of recognizing or dealing with a new government therefore does not arise. Nor, in so doing, can it be consistently maintained that the Diplomatic Corps would be encouraging disunion in China, unless it were prepared to admit that very charge in the case of the release of these funds to the South during 1919-1920.

THE PROVINCIAL MOVEMENT.

As a matter of fact, a state of disunion already exists. Peking has no more control over most of the provinces nominally under its jurisdiction than over those provinces now under the jurisdiction of the Canton Government. It is with the *de facto* situation that one has to deal. So, instead of encouraging disunion, the Diplomatic Corps will, on the contrary, be as-

sisting the present popular movement for provincial autonomy, with which all friendly Powers and friends of China are heartily in sympathy, by releasing the Customs surplus funds derived from the Southern provinces for public works in those provinces. This is but plain justice. The Legations have upheld this justice by refusing the Peking Government's application for these funds which clearly belong to the Canton Government there being no other claimant in the South with any shadow of a title.

The Diplomatic Corps has been holding the Southern portion of the Customs surplus funds in the capacity of trustee for the good and in the interest of the Chinese people. It is respectfully but strongly urged that the interest of the Chinese people will be best served if these funds, instead of being kept idle in the banks, are speedily released for those useful and constructive works for which money is urgently required.

Submitted by

QUO TAI-CHI.

Peking, Jan. 21.

On the 21st instant the newly recruited Anwu soldiers in Hsuehchow, says the Chinese press, destroyed the police station in the city as the result of a quarrel with the police. It is alleged that the police interfered with them when they were buying vegetables in the street because they obstructed the traffic. Whether or not the incident will be suitably dealt with by the authorities is not yet known.

THE "Canton Times" puts forward the demand that the Military Government in Canton should publish all the agreements entered into by the Kuangsi party when they were in power. In support of this demand it says: Concessions and franchises had been sold with a reckless disregard for the rights of the Cantonese. Mu Yung-hsien and Yang Wing-tai did not scruple about giving the same concession to two different parties. In 1918, they borrowed \$100,000 from a Mr. Richardson, an American, and in consideration of this personal accommodation, they magnanimously gave him the prior right to develop mining interests on "all government and public land throughout the province." Later on, in April, 1920, for another personal accommodation of \$100,000, another contract was entered into with a British Syndicate represented by Major Louis Cassel and Shum Pak-ming, which virtually gave this British syndicate a monopoly of the coal mining rights in the whole province of Kuangtung. It would be interesting to know whether Major Cassel knew of Mr. Richardson's contract. Apparently he did not. But Mu Yung-hsien and Yang Wing-tai must have known of it for they were parties to it. Perhaps time will reveal similar contracts made with French and Japanese firms. When dealing with knaves one must assume such possibilities.

WIRELESS AND AEROPLANES

British Legation Intervening in Peking against Recent Projected Bargains

From Our Own Correspondent.

Peking, Jan. 19.

It is stated on fairly good authority that the British Legation is preparing to enter a protest against the preliminary agreement which the Ministry of Communications has made with the Federal Wireless Company for the erection of high power stations at Shanghai, Canton, Peking and Harbin. It is generally assumed that the protest will be based upon the terms of the Marconi contract, and that the Consortium agreement will also be quoted as opposing the terms of the wireless deal.

THE PEKING SYNDICATE'S CONTRACT.

At the same time the British Legation is consistently opposing the bargain made between the Peking Syndicate and the Ministry of the Navy for the sale of more than 100 planes at a cost of £897,200, which bargain is said to have been made tempting by the promise of a loan of £400,000. It is said that several considerations prompted the British Foreign Office to veto this deal when it was submitted from Peking. In the first place the alleged loan, which is most attractive to the Chinese, was a manifest violation of the Consortium agreement. In the second place the British Legation has found it quite impossible to prevent the use of aeroplanes already sold for military purposes and is therefore put in the invidious position of having sanctioned a violation of the arms embargo agreement of March, 1919. Chang Tso-lin recently announced, with his usual candour, that he did not propose to return any more of the aeroplanes which he had taken from Nanyuan and that if the British Consul in Mukden made any further inquiries about the matter, he would make the same unequivocal statement to him. In view of this situation it would hardly be good form to permit any more of such expensive toys to be imported as Tuchuns' playthings. If the 'planes now in China were being used successfully as commercial carriers and if the number were inadequate, there might be some apology for importing more, but since the machines which are in Peking have never served any purpose but that of giving the Chinese and foreign aristocracy numerous joy-rides over the metropolis and that of damaging British prestige during the Anfu skirmish last summer, there seems little excuse for adding to their number—not at least until the Chinese Government has demonstrated that the machines already delivered can be used economically as mail or passenger carriers.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT VETO.

The local papers have made a few guarded references to the bar-

gain which the British Foreign Office now opposes, but nothing tangible has been published. The deal was originally made on behalf of the Curtis Company by Captain I. V. Gillis, their representative in the Far East. After the Ministry of the Navy had agreed to the terms the Curtis Company refused to finance the sale according to Chinese precedent, so Captain Gillis entered into an agreement with Frodsham & Company, and through this firm with the Peking Syndicate, and through this firm again with the Handley Page Company to fill the contract. This transfer brought the transaction under British auspices and it was submitted to the Home Government where it met with an immediate check. The bargain with the Chinese was signed in December, after several members of the present Peking Cabinet had strenuously opposed it and the veto from London was received in Peking about ten days ago. It is said that the promoters have not given up hope of getting diplomatic sanction and that with the Vickers contract as a precedent they propose to fight the Foreign Office decision in the British courts.

HANGCHOW UNIVERSITY

Strong Local Agitation

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hangchow, Jan. 22.

The Chamber of Commerce call a meeting of the delegates from the province to-day to discuss and present an appeal regarding the goods, stamp and income taxes. Seventy delegates expect to attend, as the question is exercising the minds of the people.

Statistics are called for a revenue and expenditure of the year from the Educational Association, the Police and Industrial Commissioners. Ever since the former Governor's yamen was taken over by the military authorities the subject has been brought up again and again as one that ought to have a fair hearing. The site originally was meant for the provincial university, and was to have reverted to the educational authorities when vacated by the Government. Now, once again, a strong combine of the Agricultural College and Silk Schools, etc. present an appeal to found on these premises an educational institution to be known as the Public School (University). It is asked that the foundation be laid in the present High School while waiting for decision in the matter of the first-named site.

Through the promptitude of the fire brigade a serious fire was prevented yesterday in the busiest part of the Great Street.

The Governor has put a stop to the proposed lantern processions at New Year time, arguing that the unnecessary expenditure of money would outweigh the benefit to trade.

PROTECTION OF CHEFOO HARBOUR

Improvement Scheme Now Nearing Completion— Report for 1920

We are indebted to the Chefoo Harbour Improvement Commission for a copy of the report of the Engineer-in-Chief covering the period from January 1 to December 31 of 1920.

The report states that throughout the year work on the breakwater was continued steadily. The north caisson was successfully placed in position on May 29, and was rapidly filled with concrete. The last large blocks were set on June 10, and work on the masonry superstructure, and the depositing of heavy rubble and small blocks on the beams was carried on without interruption. The whole of the work on the breakwater was completed by the beginning of December.

Work on the mole was carried on steadily from March 1 to December 30. To date some 1,194,000 cubic yards of sand, 167,000 square yards of brushwood "zink-stuks," and 64,500 tons of rubble have been deposited in the foundations and lower part of the mole, and nearly 173,000 tons of rubble of various grades in the upper part. The mound is approximately to its full height and protected by heavy rubble on the slopes for a length of about 3,200 feet. A total length of 1,700 feet of parapet wall has been built. The reinforced concrete caisson for the east end of the quay wall was successfully sunk on August 1, and has been filled with concrete, and all the large masonry blocks in the quay wall and wing walls have been set, and about half of the masonry superstructure has been built. Since the commencement of the works 18,000 tons of cement have been received.

The Treasurer's report of collections and expenses shows that Ch. Tls. 129,826.57 were collected during 1920, Government grants during the year amounted to Ch. Tls. 10,476, interest to Ch. Tls. 47,283.44, sundry receipts to Ch. Tls. 1,128.14, while the expenditure, including instalments to contractors, amounted to Ch. Tls. 645,942.42.

A TIENTSIN correspondent writes:—"We are having an extraordinarily warm spell for a Tientsin January. Although the river is frozen with ice, which I am told is 18 in. thick, it will not last long if it goes on like this:

Jan. 19, 1921, Min. 24. F. Max. 48. F.
Jan. 19, 1920, Min. 13. F. Max. 46. F.
Jan. 19, 1919, Min. 6. F. Max. 25. F.

"I am told that the last is about the proper temperature. If you have any rain to spare send it up. I don't believe there has been a drop since September, and none likely till April. Another dry season will about clean the population out."

THE WARRING SOLDIERS OF THE SOUTH

Deadly Feud at Pakhoi

From Our Own Correspondent.

Pakhoi, Jan. 15.

The history of the last month may be summarized as a struggle on the part of the two "kings" of the district to raise sufficient money to keep their soldiers more or less contented. Both Wong Chi-on and Wong Ming-tong are in Canton at the present moment for that purpose. A collision between the soldiers of these two generals occurred at Lingshan. After two days sharp fighting, and leaving a total of 400 killed, both parties agreed to stop the quarrel, and to resume the *status quo*. Meantime heavy taxation is being levied throughout the district. One general has imposed a tax of one-tenth the rental value of all houses and business premises. Wealthy men are also being "taxed" in a way that obtained great favour under the Manchu régime. Usually one of the sons is arrested on a trumped-up charge, and only on payment of a good round sum can his release be secured. The people in the villages and country generally have suffered much in the past, but now they are being systematically robbed to a greater degree than ever. There are always local rascals to be found, who, for a consideration, show the soldiers where most profit is to be obtained.

Four days ago the important market town of Onpo was looted by the soldiers in charge. This is the third time within the past two years that this town has so suffered.

SALT ADMINISTRATION TROUBLES.

The Salt Administration here has been approached from time to time with a view to advancing money, but Mr. Chung Yam-tong, the Assistant District Inspector, has consistently refused all such applications. For a time a curious state of affairs existed at the branch office in Liemchow. General Wong Ming-tong placed his own appointee in charge (along with a detachment of soldiers to confirm the appointment), and then the representative of the Salt Revenue applied for leave to Canton. Mr. Chung telegraphed to Canton about the matter, but the despatch of the wire is said to have been delayed by order of General Wong. A despatch was forwarded by post, and the reply to this was altered in favour of General Wong's man. It was not until after some time that the matter was finally adjusted by the arrival of a properly appointed officer from Canton.

Messrs. Melbye and Waller of the Asiatic Petroleum Co. have been in the district during the past few weeks on the business of the company.

The Deputy for Foreign Affairs left recently for Hongkong. He has been without pay for the last three months, and the latest

"authorities" in charge took possession of his office.

The first week of the new year was unusually cold for this part, the thermometer registering 350 F. Hundreds of fish, and many cattle died from the cold.

THE REVENGE OF THE DEAD.

A weird story is told of a robber who opened a grave last night a few li from the town. Having made a small hole in the coffin in order to get the jade ornaments from the corpse, the man slipped in some way and got his head and shoulders jammed in the hole. The report says he was found dead in that position.

CHINA'S UNDERWORLD

A Beggar's Revolting Cruelty

From Our Own Correspondent.

Junghsien, Sze., Jan. 3.

A week ago, the usual programme of punishments was varied by having a man beaten to death by clubs, owing to the heinous nature of his crime. A study of the underworld in China would reveal stories to rival any that Victor Hugo ever wrote. This criminal was a fellow who was familiar as a beggar on the streets. He would slide along the street on a mat, having his legs twisted and drawn up in a most pitiable condition, though it is said that he could walk and run as well as anybody when occasion required.

For some time he had been accompanied by a little girl, about six years of age, whose arms were really bent and stiffened, and it is said that her condition was so appealing that he derived as much as 1,000 cash a day from her begging. One day she recognized a man on the street as her uncle. At first he did not remember her, but she was able to prove that she was his niece who had been stolen some time before from her native village, a place about six miles away. The uncle immediately had the beggar taken up and at the trial it came out that he had cut the tendons of the child's arms, after kidnapping her, and twisted the limbs out of shape, taking her out to beg with him after the wounds had healed. The death of three or four other children was laid against him and clubbing to death like a dog was considered the appropriate punishment for the poor wretch. When arrested he had some \$15 on his person, quite a large sum for a man to carry about in these parts.

In order to provide education for the children of the members of his staff, Dr. W. W. Yen, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has established a school on the old premises of the said Ministry in Peking. Sixty pupils will be admitted for the time being. No tuition fee will be charged, but children will have to pay for their books. As soon as all the necessary arrangements have been completed the school will be opened.

"THE MESSIAH" AT NINGPO

Successful Performance

From Our Own Correspondent.

Ningpo, Jan. 24.

For the first time in the history of the ancient city of Ningpo selections from Handel's great oratorio "The Messiah"—considered by many the greatest ever produced—have been rendered here.

We are fortunate in having in our midst two very skilful musicians, the Rev. W. P. Bates, who acted as conductor, and Miss Lawrence who was pianist. For several months a choir of about 20 voices has been practising the pieces selected and on January 14 the rendering was given at a Handel evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Redfern. Practically the whole foreign community was present as well as the Taoyin and his wife. The Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Carey, proved a very genial chairman and by way of introduction to the musical part of the programme gave an interesting account of Handel's life and works.

Solos were rendered by Miss Hughes, Miss Cressy, Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Bates, Dr. Thomas and Mr. and Mrs. Redfern. Two of our best soloists, Miss Duncan and Mr. Smith, were unfortunately unable to be present owing to sickness. After a brief interval a further selection of Handel's works including the well-known Largo rendered on the violin by Mr. Tchou, and selections from "Judas Macabeus," given by Mrs. Redfern and Mr. Bates brought to a close a most delightful and profitable evening.

FAMINE RELIEF FUNDS.

The Famine Relief Committee, which has in its first campaign collected \$14,000, is now preparing for a second campaign which will be inaugurated with a jumble sale to be held at the Y. M. C. A. on February 21 and 22. Contributions of suitable goods from residents in Shanghai or other parts of China would be gratefully received by the Committee.

COMING EVENTS.

The members of the foreign community here are looking forward to the forthcoming marriage of the Rev. W. P. Bates to Miss L. Smith who is expected to arrive in China on the str. Porthos due at the end of February, and to the return of Bishop and Mrs. Molony who are expected to reach Ningpo a little later.

Mr. Israel Cohen, the special Zionist emissary who is on a publicity tour of the Far East in connexion with the reconstruction of Palestine and was recently in Shanghai, is now in Hongkong, and announces, says Reuter, that he has raised £21,000 in China and Japan towards the Palestine Restoration Fund.

THE JAPANESE DIET REOPENED

Kenseikai's Agitation for Friendship with China

Tokio, Jan. 20.

In view of the Diet's opening on Saturday, to-day has been marked by the greatest political activity, and party meetings were held for the purpose of framing the platforms.

The Kenseikai policy includes the establishment of the League of Nations on a more practical basis, the maintenance of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, friendly relations with America, the settlement of pending questions on a basis of mutual understanding, the adoption of a co-operative policy towards China, and the early withdrawal of troops from Siberia.

Viscount Kato, the leader of the party, in the course of a speech, accused the Administration of failure regarding the racial equality question, through not having introduced a discussion upon it at the recent session of the League of Nations. There had also been a serious failure of policy as regards China, which, however, was rather attributable to the disturbed condition of the Republic. The most urgent question was the restoration of order in China and the suppression of Bolshevik tendencies.

THE SIBERIAN BOG.

As regards Siberia, the Government's policy was "offence rather than failure." He contended that the troops should have been withdrawn on the withdrawal of the Czechs, or increased to overcome the Bolshevik elements. An early settlement of the California question was impossible. Provided the negotiations were conducted in the friendliest spirit, the Japanese demands could, he asserted, be insisted upon without aggravating the situation.

The Kokuminto favoured a thorough-going programme of internal reform, the curtailment of military expenditure, and the development of industrial power, contending that "the deciding factor lies in the superiority of industrial power and national wealth, and no longer in the superiority of arms."—Reuter.

The Country's Foreign Relations: Mr. Hara's Views on California and Chientao

Tokio, Jan. 22.

The Diet met to-day. The Premier, Mr. Hara, in the course of his opening speech, said:

"As regards the country's foreign relations, I am happy to say that we are on good terms with all foreign countries. It is true that there are now, as at other times, some questions pending, such as the Californian and Chientao questions. In the case of the Californian question, however, the authorities concerned, both in

America and Japan, are now engaged in the discussion of it in the most friendly spirit. The Government anticipate a satisfactory settlement.

"As regards the Chientao question, the despatch of our troops to that district is only a temporary measure, demanded by the necessity for self-defence in the presence of disturbing conditions, as evidenced in the act of those outlaws who had burnt our Consulate at Hungchun and killed or wounded our countrymen there. As soon as order and security in that district are assured, for which the Chinese Government are primarily responsible, these troops will of course be withdrawn, as was announced on the occasion of their despatch. In fact, with the exception of small detachments, these troops have already been withdrawn.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

An important address on foreign relations was delivered by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count Uchida. He gave special prominence to matters in connexion with the establishment of the League of Nations and the various objects which it hopes to achieve.

He said that the Japanese Government, in common with the other Allied Governments, very keenly desired that, for the peace of the world and the general welfare of humanity, the United States should see its way clear to join its efforts with those of other nations for the realization of the lofty aims of the League.

What was worthy of special note was that at the sessions of the Council and Assembly of the League representatives of the member states had invariably evinced a willingness to put forth their efforts for the cause of the League, instead of confining their attention to the interests of the individual nations they represented.

DIFFICULTIES OF DISARMAMENT.

In regard to the reduction of armaments provided for in the Peace Treaty, the Military Commission of the League, since its organization last May, had been making investigations into the practical phase of the question. As a matter of principle, disarmament was to be welcomed for the general welfare of the human race, and the Japanese Government were paying special attention to the question. The matter, however, had very important and complex bearings for each nation, and it was to be apprehended that realization of this end might be found impossible unless all nations acted with one accord and in good faith.

He wished to state that the aim of the League—of world peace and the promoting of international co-operation—was quite consistent with the policy followed through-out by Japan, and that it was her intention, as one of the five great nations, invariably to make endeavours, in hearty co-operation with the other Powers, for the attainment of that lofty aim of the League.

ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

Viscount Uchida then dealt with the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, and after mentioning its relation to the League covenant, said the fact it had largely and distinctly contributed to the peace, stability and welfare of the entire Far East was fully realized by both nations, and not only was a continuance and preservation of the wholesome spirit of this Alliance for a long time to come desired by the most thoughtful among the two peoples, but it was, he felt sure, in perfect harmony with the high ideals of the League of Nations.

Concerning the new Consortium, he said that while its activities in future were necessarily dependent upon negotiation and cooperation between the organization itself and the Chinese Government, it might not be out of place, now that the Consortium had been completed, to make a remark upon its mission. The object of the Consortium was purely economic, in other words what it aimed at was to assist and facilitate the economic development of China, and thereby to contribute to the happiness and interest of the Chinese people on the one hand, and to afford equal opportunity for the private enterprise of the nations concerned, on the other.—Reuter.

RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES.

Tokio, Jan. 22.

In the continuation of his speech in the Japanese Diet Viscount Uchida adverted to the sending of troops to Chientao. He said that these troops had proved equal to the task expected of them, and the Chinese Government on the other hand, actuated by a spirit of co-operation, had been transferring suitable contingents to Chientao for the purpose of clearing the locality of outlaws and guarding against future disturbances. The Japanese Government, therefore, in pursuance of their declaration, had decided to withdraw these troops. At the same time, steps were now being taken with a view to a proper settlement of this unfortunate affair. It was also the Japanese Government's intention to provide fully, in cooperation with the Chinese Government, for the tranquillity of the districts affected and for the protection of Japanese subjects.

THE CALIFORNIAN LAND LAW.

After dealing with the Siberian situation he went on to mention the good relationship existing between Japan and America which in spite of an occasional mingling of unpleasantness due to the complexity of international relations, was fundamentally as cordial as ever. He had to dwell here on an unfortunate event which had occurred in their relations with the United States. Last November, at the time of the general election in the United States, the State of California passed an Alien Land Law. The new law was cognate to the law of 1913, made more drastic

and severe. That it was aimed at the Japanese and was unjust and discriminatory could not be denied. The regret which the Japanese Government expressed for the legislation of 1913 was, therefore, still more keenly entertained by them for this new legislation.

This question of a land-law, however, was not one of to-day or yesterday. It had a long history and complex and delicate bearings. It was impossible to solve the problem from the standpoint of one side alone. Principally for these reasons, the difficulty arising between Japan and America from the legislation of 1913 had remained unsettled to this day. In dealing with this matter, therefore, the Japanese Government had, from the outset, exercised the closest care. Not only antecedent to the passage of the law did they take proper and well-advised steps, but, recognizing, from the higher standpoint of Japanese-American friendship and with ample regard for the close and important relation of interests between the two nations, the urgency of a final solution of the difficulties caused by such unfortunate and unpleasant events, they caused their representative to open discussion with the American authorities.

AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

A frank and free exchange of views had since been proceeding on the various points calling for examination and debate, though it was regretted that they were not yet in a position to publish the results of these discussions. It was the sincere desire of the Japanese Government that a solution compatible with the honour and interests of both countries might finally be arrived at.—Reuter.

Japanese Policy in Siberia

[Strongly Attacked]

Tokio, Jan. 24.

The House of Peers was packed to-day to hear Viscount Kato, former Ambassador to London, make his first speech in the House, where he has been sitting for years but has hitherto been silent. Viscount Kato is regarded as a leading exponent, almost a "worshipper," of Anglo-Saxon political ideals, and being powerful as the President of the Kenseikai, the leading opposition party, his speech was regarded with intense interest.

After criticizing the Government's lack of continuity in international dealings and the failure of its economic policy, Viscount Kato declared that Japan should have withdrawn from Siberia with America. Japan, by remaining in Siberia, and giving shifting excuses, was arousing charges that she entertained militaristic ambitions. When the Czechs had been evacuated, the Government had declared that it must maintain order, but why, he asked, maintain order in foreign territory? The Government talked of the menace of Bolshevism, especially to Korea,

but if so, it should occupy Chientao, the Korean hotbed, rather than Siberia. Better, the speaker said, leave the foreign affairs to foreigners, unless Japanese interests were seriously menaced.

Japan's initial expedition was proper because America joined in it, but subsequent reinforcements were unnecessary, and were leading to foreign misapprehensions.

The Government alleged the necessity for the protection of Japanese residents, but, having withdrawn them from Chita, he asked why it should not also withdraw them from Vladivostok where the business of most of the Japanese civilians was in connexion with the military occupation of the place. Better to withdraw these civilians than to endanger a larger number of soldiers' lives, to say nothing of expense and, more important still, foreign criticism.

THE PREMIER'S EXPLANATION.

The Premier, Mr. Hara, said that when the Czechs evacuated Siberia, the Government wished to withdraw. Not, however, on account of political ambition, but owing to the fact that many Russians desired that Japan should remain, and also for the protection of Japanese interests and residents, the withdrawal was delayed. The continued occupation was, therefore, for the purpose of self-protection. After the Nikolaievsk massacre Zabaikal was evacuated, but the Japanese remained at Vladivostok, with the assent of the Powers.

The political instability in Siberia was a source of worry to Japan, but that was not the cause of the continued occupation, which was merely for the purpose of protecting Japanese in Vladivostok.

ALARMING SPREAD OF BOLSHEVISM.

The Premier declared that Bolshevism was spreading with overwhelming rapidity, and was threatening to find its way into Japanese territory at any moment. The Government was aware of the futility of trying to check Bolshevism with bayonets, and realized that it was not in this way that the "Bolshevization" of discontented Koreans could be prevented. Large numbers of the latter who were at Vladivostok had been expelled, and were now congregating in the Chientao region. Troops went to Chientao because the Chinese authorities could not protect the Japanese residents. When satisfactory Chinese guarantees were forthcoming, the Japanese would immediately withdraw from Chientao. The same policy would be pursued as regards Vladivostok. The Japanese interests in the Chinese Eastern Railway zone and South Manchuria generally were menaced, and therefore troops were stationed at Harbin as at Vladivostok.

Mr. Hara deplored that the relations between China and Japan were at present anything but satisfactory. The Government, he said, was well aware of the paramount importance of friendship with China, and was constantly striving towards a realization

thereof. The anti-Japanese movements in China were not, he declared, exclusively the outcome of Japan's policy.

ARMAMENTS AND DEFENCE.

In the House of Representatives, Count Uchida, the Foreign Minister, declared that it was unnecessary for Japan to take the lead in proposing a limitation of armaments, because her present naval projects were the minimum compatible with national defence, but the Government was willing to consider any foreign proposal.

The resumption of trade with Russia required careful scrutiny, said the Minister, because evidently the Soviet aimed at carrying on propaganda through a resumption of trade.

The Minister of War, Baron Tanaka, stated that the project for increasing the Army from 21 Divisions to 25 had been suspended for the next 10 years.

MILITARIST ISHMAELS.

Mr. Kotaro Mochizuki (Kenseikai), in the course of a violent criticism, declared that the Japanese were undoubtedly completely isolated.

Mr. Nishimura (Kokuminto) declared that Japan was branded as a militaristic nation, second to Germany, because half of her ¥1,560,000,000 budget was devoted to armaments.—Reuter.

JAPAN AND LITTLE HSU'S ESCAPE

Curious Statement by Baron Tanaka: The Flight to Port Arthur

Tokio, Jan. 25.

The interpellations of the Opposition in the House of Peers to-day centred on the Chientao question and the escape of "Little" Hsu.

Replying, the War Minister, Baron Tanaka, denied the report that the War Office had made suggestions to Mr. Obata, Japanese Minister at Peking, regarding Hsu's escape. The Government had issued instructions forbidding all officials to render assistance. Some aid had been extended after the escape by the military authorities, when Hsu had wanted to journey secretly from Tientsin to Port Arthur. This had been done purely out of sympathy and owing to certain circumstances, the disclosure of which now was forbidden by prudence.

The Commander of the Legation Guard must be held responsible and had been accordingly punished. The Legation porters had not recognized Hsu at the time of his escape, owing to the fact that no one coming in or leaving the Legation was challenged—excepting Chinese.

As regards Chientao, Colonel Mizumachi had been sent to prevent misunderstanding on the part

of missionaries and correspondents, with regard to the operations there.

Colonel Mizumachi's communications to the missionaries were purely private, but were interpreted by correspondents as formal and official. The War Office was in no way connected with Colonel Mizumachi's declarations. There were numbers of Japanese officers in China for the purpose of becoming acquainted with conditions in that country, and they were, therefore, often accused of interfering with diplomatic questions. This accusation was unjustified except as regarded Siberia, where the Commander had often been compelled to participate in politics, but always with the confidence of the civil authorities.—Reuter.

Note:—It may be recalled that Colonel Mizumachi was sent to Chientao at the end of November last at the head of a Japanese War Office Mission. "to act," as it was stated at the time, "as liaison officers between the army and the foreign residents of Chientao." Colonel Mizumachi wrote a letter to Dr. William Foote, head of the Mission at Hungchun in which he defended the activities of the Japanese military and strongly criticized the missionaries for, as he alleged, attempting to stir up rebellion among the Koreans. The letter created a considerable sensation in the Japanese press.—Reuter.

Spotted Fever in Japan

Tokio, Jan. 17.

A local despatch received by the "Kokumin" reports an outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis among the soldiers of the third division. A soldier, belonging to the first corps of the second company of this division was taken to the garrison hospital on the 12th, suffering from fever. Later his case was diagnosed as cerebro-spinal meningitis, and all the men of his corps were ordered to undergo a medical examination. As a result, all were discovered to be suffering more or less from the same plague, with 21 severe cases. They are now being treated in the garrison hospital.—Reuter.

Another Spy Scare in Japan

Tokio, Jan. 26.

The Foreign Affairs section of the Metropolitan Police held an urgent general conference yesterday to consider plans for effectively watching Americans residing and travelling in Japan. According to a statement from the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Police Bureau, there is evidence that some professing tourists and others who are business men are actually engaged in investigating the industrial and military conditions in Japan, in co-operation with Americans long resident in the country.

The attention of the authorities was attracted through the number of American agents arriving in Korea and China, whence they are communicating with each other by wireless. Such messages are easily detected by the Japanese and Chinese secret services, but the operations of the suspected agents in Japan are less obvious.—Reuter.

YUNNANESE OUTRAGE IN SZECHUAN

Revolting Atrocities Wreaked on an Innocent Town by Defeated Troops

From Our Own Correspondent.

Tzeliutsing, Jan. 5.

Herewith an interesting story, and said to be true, about when the Yunnanese were still in the province and making their last advance on Chengtu, at the time when they got to the gates of the provincial capital.

An engagement had taken place at a city of refuge called Fuch'inchai on the main road to Lungchang, where the Yunnanese had tried to force the fortress. A small detachment of Szechuanese held the place and the Yunnanese had to retire with some loss. Later by a counter move the Szechuanese were forced back and the fortress evacuated by them.

A WICKED REVENGE.

A few days later the Yunnanese were seen approaching the fort and the populace opened their gates to welcome the conquerors. Alas, they little knew what was in store for them. The enraged Yunnanese soldiers rushed through the gates and only when they began firing at everybody did the people realize what was in store for them. A complete sacking of the place ensued and wanton destruction of everything and everybody. When the women and girls saw how those who were first seized were used they began to drown themselves, and others to seek hiding places of the most wretched description. In all, over 100 people lost their lives through killing and suicide. The vandals then left the place as unceremoniously as they had entered it.

The story of the attack was later told to me by some one on the inside of Yunnanese affairs. It seems that the colonel-in-command of the regiment, whose duty it was to take the fort, underestimated its strength and sent an insufficient force to capture it. Peeved at the failure, and chagrined at the loss of the men, he threatened to settle with the inhabitants of the fortress. Naturally one could not blame them. Campaign officers cannot stop to consult the wishes of the inhabitants of a strategic point when they wish to use it for defence or attack. And the Szechuanese officers are no exception when it comes to lack of politeness to their own people. Yunnanese Colonel Chang was talking with two other colonels, Shi and Wang, about the matter and he said he would settle with those people who caused the loss of his men through letting the Szechuanese into the fort. Shi and Wang were also anxious to participate in the fracas and all three sent their men to the fortress to seek satisfaction. They went with the results above detailed.

JUSTICE SLOW BUT SURE.

But hear the sequel of the story. The Yunnanese put the Szechuanese to flight and followed them up to the gates of Chengtu. On the way many battles were fought and some stubborn ones. When the time came to reorganize the regiments of the Yunnanese it was found that not one man from the lieutenant down who participated in the attack on the fortress was to be found, they all having been killed in action. This is as reported by the Yunnanese and one can believe that there is some truth in the story. May it have a proper effect on the Yunnanese and Szechuanese alike, as such outrages never in any land bring any good to the perpetrators.

Silver Dollars in Szechuan

From Our Own Correspondent.

Junghsien, Jan. 3.

It is interesting to note how the silver dollar is replacing the lump silver. A few years ago dollars were very scarce here but now they are as much in circulation as the copper cash, though the 10 and 20 cash coppers are not much in evidence.

At Chungking I was told that 10 and 20 cent pieces were hardly usable, while everywhere west of that city they seem to be welcomed, ten 10 cent pieces changing for a dollar, without reference to the province of origin. In fact Hongkong and Straits Settlement coins are very frequently met with.

I suppose, if it were not for the Customs regulations, enterprising travellers from Shanghai would make 10 per cent. on their funds by investing them in subsidiary coins and bringing them to the west.

A GOOD SALT STORY.

A story of enterprise comes from the near by salt wells. A well owner, whose well had dried up, tried the experiment of pouring water down his well and then pumping it up again, hoping that it would come up briny. By some lucky chance he allowed some rice hulls to get into the water and he discovered that his neighbours were pumping up rice hulls in their brine. He was able to prove that the rice hulls were his, so now he is gaining a competence by pouring rice hull mixed with water down his old well and collecting a tax from all his neighbours whose brine contains the rice hulls.

THE Central Government has despatched a telegram to General Tan Yen-kai urging him to return to Hunan and promising to offer him protection and appoint him Tuchun of that province. General Tan, however, is reported to have replied by saying that he wishes to set out upon a long voyage abroad. —It is a wise child which knows its own province.

THE PROVINCE OF WILD RUMOUR

Hunan's Unsettled State: Our
Lawless Soldiery: The
Merchant Pays

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chenchow, Hu., Jan. 12.

These are surely days of wild rumours. We heard that in the northern part of the province reports were about that severe fighting was taking place around Chenchow and that the city had been looted and burned. We have been hearing for days that Changsha is the scene of fierce strife between the different factions, and just recently word came that 13 of the leaders had been killed by the military. Among these was Lin Tsi-yiu, the Civil Governor. More recently still we heard that the 10 generals who had charge of the military in Hunan had all gone to Changsha to demand money from Chao Heng-ti, or know why it was not forthcoming.

MURDER AND ROBBERY.

We have been very quiet for three weeks since the great bulk of the soldiers who came back from the Canton border went on towards Liling and Yuihsien to fight, but so far we have heard of no fighting down there. A few men (about one yuin) have been left behind to protect the town. One night last week an officer who is supposed to have had some cash in his possession was shot or knifed to death by his own men because he would not divide up. A young man with a few tens of dollars started out for Linwu to buy indigo, and before he got well out of the town a soldier or soldiers caught up with him and stabbed him in several places, stole his money and left him bleeding by the side of the road. These are illustrations of the kind of protection we get from the military.

THE NEW MAGISTRATE.

The latest move of the military general here was to change five or six magistrates, evidently without authority from Changsha. Our magistrate was told to leave and when he refused to give up his seals of office until word came from Changsha the soldiers went privately and compelled him to give them over, and a young man who was connected with the military has taken his place. It seems all wrong but we are going on with our new magistrate and seemingly all is quiet.

These are days when the unexpected happens and we can only sit tight and wait for the latest new thing in politics and government. The new official called on all the foreigners and seems to be wide awake and wishes to do the right thing.

Meanwhile the Chamber of Commerce and the gentry and merchants are being asked for money

to tide the soldiers over the year. Money seems to be scarce among them but they are well dressed and seem to have plenty to eat. The paper money is still passing at a great discount but not many of the merchants will take any quantity.

JAPAN DAY BY DAY

A Kamchatka Gold Mine: Votes for Everybody—Silk Trade Depression

Tokio—A plan is afloat, according to the Tokio "*Nichi Nichi*", for working a gold mine in Kamchatka by Japanese and Russian capitalists as a joint undertaking. The former are being represented by Mr. Mannosuke Nakamura, of Tokio, who holds extensive interests in the coast fishery of the maritime Province, and the latter by Mr. Yuriev, who holds the Fifth Order of Merit, granted for services to the Japanese Expeditionary Force in Siberia. "An agreement has already been concluded with the Vladivostok Government," said Mr. Yuriev. "The capital will be subscribed equally by the Japanese and Russians concerned."

A party of Japanese officials, including Admiral Yoshida, have left on board the man-of-war Kasuga for the South Sea Islands, with the object (according to the "*Hochi*") of inspecting the social and economic conditions of the islanders, as a preliminary to deciding what form of administration is best for these islands.

Dr. Takuro Tamaru, Professor of the Tokio Imperial University and an expert on aeronautics, has been ordered to Europe and America for a study of foreign aerial progress. The "*Jiji*" adds that he is also entrusted with an important international mission.

The question whether the desired manhood suffrage for Japan shall be limited or unlimited appears to be a rock upon which the Kenseikai Party may split. "What! Let even the beggars vote?" exclaim some of the Kenseikai leaders, to which others, including Messrs. Shimada and Ozaki reply: "Yes. Why not?" Such an idea, however, is too much for the majority to swallow.

Despite the optimism expressed by the authorities, the effect of the present depression is shown in the increasing unemployment, according to the "*Chugai Shogyo*," which reports that the Sanryusha Silk Co. of Okazaki has dismissed 3,000 women reelers. Business is affected to such an extent that it will be impossible to re-employ them for two years, says a director of the Company. The Yonago Filature Co. is reported to have discharged 600 reelers.—Reuter.

THE DEATH OF LIEUT. LANGDON

Admiral Gleaves' Inquiry

Vladivostok, Jan. 24.

Admiral Gleaves to-day exchanged visits with General Oi.

The Court of Inquiry into the death of Lieutenant Langdon, U.S.N., consisted of Admiral Gleaves' Chief of Staff, Captain Cone, Captain Owens of the New Orleans, and several other officers. The Japanese members included Colonel Yamamoto, Major Senoo and Major Okinori, Chief of Gendarmes. It is expected that the results will soon be given out.

The New Orleans left for Shanghai yesterday, with the late Lieutenant Langdon's body on board.—Reuter.

JAPANESE MINISTER OF WAR'S STATEMENT.

Tokio, Jan. 25.

Replying to an interpellation in the Lower House, regarding the shooting affair at Vladivostok, the Minister of War, Baron Tanaka, announced that the matter was still under investigation.

The investigation so far made it appear probable that the sentry had fired first, but the only question as yet undecided was the degree of justification for his doing so. The unusual lateness of the American's appearance on the streets had doubtless increased the possibility of misunderstanding.

The question was not an international one. The American local authorities were most confident in the Japanese spirit of fairness and awaited the result of the investigation with patience and satisfaction.

Japan, he declared, was justified in policing Vladivostok, having been entrusted with that most important mission by the Consular Body.—Reuter.

FULL INVESTIGATION PROMISED.

Washington, Jan. 26.

The Japanese reply to the Government's note in connexion with the shooting of Lieut. Langdon at Vladivostok promises a thorough investigation.

Admiral Gleaves has informed the Navy Department that the American court of inquiry at Vladivostok decided that Lieut. Landon was the victim of an unwarranted attack by a Japanese Sentry, and that General Oi had warned his staff officers to instruct sentries to exercise more caution in future.—Reuter.

A Kokusai telegram reports that Mr. Robert Nichols has been appointed professor of English literature at Tokio University. Mr. Nichols' qualifications for the post are not given, but according to his own statement to a representative of the London "*Observer*" who interviewed him, he is neither a philologist nor a historian.

CHRISTMAS AT CHENG TU

A Wedding and an Impressive Memorial

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chengtu, Dec. 26.

The political atmosphere is favourable at present, so Christmas festivities have been the order, and the weather has been all that could be desired. Christmas Day flags and streamers floated over the principal buildings of the city, commemorating Tsai Ngo's victory in establishing the Republic when Yuan Shih-kai tried to restore the Monarchy. The various missions observed the day in the usual way, and, with special programmes, disbursed considerable comfort and help to the poor and needy.

It is widely felt in the capital though, that the poor of Szechuan are comparatively few when the great famine in the North is considered. Many efforts are being made to assist the sufferers in the North. The missionary community, at the recent Thanksgiving anniversary, raised over \$700 for the fund, Dr. Taylor, the president of the American Club, inaugurated the movement, and the British Patriotic League and Overseas Club co-operated, and the foreign community was well covered. Mr. V. Smith, Postal Commissioner, has also taken action in postal circles and among officials, and realized a substantial sum for the famine fund.

Now last week a citywide organization was effected as a result of a telegram received by Mr. Service of the Y.M.C.A. Almost 100 representatives of Provincial, civic and business institutions met at the Chamber of Commerce and organized. Chief of Police Wang took the chair. Former Tutuh Yuin Chang-hen, and General Liu Yu-chiu, also Mr. Service spoke on the great need for immediate action. Generals Liu Chen-hoo and Liu Yu-chiu were elected joint chairmen of the organization, then a strong representative executive committee was appointed and has already commenced work. The students have appointed a representative, and expect to cover the schools of the city. Chengtu will not be behind in coming quickly to the rescue.

A LOCAL WEDDING.

The chief item of social interest during the week was the marriage of Mr. Earl Dome of the local Y.M.C.A. and Miss Marcellus of the Canadian School, on Christmas Day. The interesting ceremony took place at the residence of Captain A. J. and Mrs. Brace at the Union University, in the presence of some 30 close friends of the young couple. The house was tastefully decorated, combining both wedding and Christmas ideas.

Under an evergreen arch, hung with white bells, golden Meihua and miniature oranges, the contracting parties were supported by

two sweet little flower girls in pink, Mrs. Carson, matron of honour, delightfully gowned in a creation of pink silk, little Jack Service in white as ring-bearer, and Captain E. C. Wilford in khaki uniform, who gave the bride away. The bride looked charming in her white satin dress trimmed with old lace, and wearing a long tulle veil forming a graceful train. She carried a magnificent large bouquet of white chrysanthemums and roses. Rev. J. M. Yard performed the ceremony. Mrs. Brace played the Wedding March, and also throughout the entire ceremony.

Heartly congratulations and costly gifts were showered on the happy couple. After a brief reception, receiving the felicitations of their many friends, and partaking of refreshments, they went away in sedan chairs amid showers of confetti and rice, to their new home in the Manchu city.

AN IMPRESSIVE MEMORIAL.

The local branch of the International Red Cross have just completed a two days Memorial Service for the late President of the China Red Cross of Shanghai, also for the late Dr. O. L. Kilborn of the Canadian Methodist Mission, who was a great advocate of the Red Cross, and gave it very practical support during his many years residence in Szechuan, going at one time on an expedition to Chungking as Red Cross surgeon in the second revolution of 1913. The Huay Fu Temple was secured for the great memorial celebrations. The temple has a long and honourable past. It was here in Manchu days that all official documents from the Emperor were opened, while the gathered officials on bended knee watched the ceremony of breaking the sacred seal, and then listened to the august commands. Thoroughly cognizant of the greatness of the past, the Red Cross officials spared no effort to stimulate the thought of the visitors to realize the ancient grandeur, and the decorations surpassed the usual display on such occasions.

Christmas Day, a great concourse of people visited the temple. Sunday was given over to ladies' day and the foreigners. A Christian memorial service was held at three o'clock, attended by a large number of foreigners. Dr. J. L. Stewart, Vice-President of the Union University, and Dr. Li, a graduate doctor of the Medical College of the same University, delivered the addresses. The Governor's military brass band was present and the committee served refreshments, while the inevitable photograph was taken.

Over 500 sets of scrolls were presented for Dr. Kilborn alone, showing the sincere and widespread respect to the memory of the late doctor among his Chinese friends. They sincerely mourn his loss. He truly was a great lover of the Chinese people, and they marvelled at his vast knowledge of the language, and his facility in the use of it. It is regretted

that Dr. Gifford Kilborn, his wife, did not arrive in time, being delayed between Chungking and the capital escorting American visitors. But the scrolls will be presented to her on arrival.

BRIGANDAGE DECREASING.

Mr. Harry Openshaw has just arrived in the Capital with a large party of Canadian Methodist and Baptist recruits. He has been away three months on the trip to Chungking and return, and reports the condition of brigandage not nearly as serious as it has been formerly. He got his party safely through, except a section of the Canadians under Mr. Homer Brown, whose boat was wrecked below Chienweh. Mr. Openshaw secured more boats from the official and sent them down to Mr. Brown, who is expected to reach the capital this week.

The air has been filled with minute particles of sand for the past week, the result of a great sand storm raging in the North around the Gobi Desert. Some days the light of the sun was considerably lessened owing to the storm.

Word comes in from Kuanhsien and beyond that Liu Chao's troops have returned from the East, after their rout, by the mountain roads. They are holding up all rice caravans for the interior, and generally disturbing the peace of the tribes country.

Dr. J. W. Lowrie in Hunan

Chenchow, Hu., Jan. 12.

Dr. J. W. Lowrie, chairman of the Presbyterian Missions China Council, was a visitor to Chenchow recently, arriving on New Year's eve and leaving a week later. The local church had made preparations to get him good crowds for the many services he was to hold, but the weather was bitterly cold. Snow had fallen and ice was to be seen on all the ponds, which is very unusual for southern Hunan. In spite of the inclement weather the meetings were well attended and all were delighted to hear him speak. He has a northern dialect but was quite well understood by all.

The Presbyterian Church of Chenchow and some of the outstations have contributed nearly \$200 for famine relief in north China, which certainly was a good showing for so weak an organization. It must be added that some of the friends of the church on the street also helped with contributions. The girls' school gave an entertainment to all the patrons of the school and over \$50 including paper money was raised. The recent Christmas entertainment also raised a snug amount for the Yunnan Home Mission work.

ONE of the biggest fires that has occurred in Hongkong for many years destroyed the greater part of Messrs. W. S. Bailey's shipyard at Kowloon in the early hours of January 15.

SOCIAL EVENTS IN CHENG TU

Red Cross and Funds

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chêngtu, Jan. 3.

The Overseas Club and Patriotic League held their annual meeting on "Our Day." A very interesting programme was given in the gymnasium of the Canadian School. The needs of the Red Cross hospitals in England were touchingly referred to by Mr. Hewlett H. M. Consul, and over \$500 was subscribed.

A meeting of the Anglo-Saxon Union was held in the chapel of the M. E. M. Girls' Institute on Pilgrim Fathers' Day. An eloquent appeal was made for the Famine Relief Fund by Dr. Taylor and over \$800 has been forwarded.

The citizens of the United States assembled on the M. E. M. Mission compound for their Thanksgiving Dinner. About 60 adults and 20 children were present. This gives some idea of the rapidly increasing foreign population of Chengtu.

Y. M. C. A. CAMPAIGN.

The Y.M.C.A. have just completed a very successful campaign for membership. During the campaign, every Saturday night, between 3,000 and 4,000 people assembled to hear reports and to be entertained by moving pictures. Fortunately the "Y." has a splendid position in the very heart of the city. A large campus in the rear makes an ideal place for entertainments on a large scale. One evening the women were invited and about 3,000 were present. It was noticeable that though they came dressed in their silks, yet very few came in sedan chairs. For a far inland city Chêngtu is very much to the front in her adaption of what are termed semi-foreign customs. The Y.W.C.A. is establishing work in Chêngtu and three ladies are in the city ready to open an active campaign as soon as the time is opportune.

The Christmas festivities have been very much to the front during the holiday. The Chinese seem very fond of acting, and plays have been the chief attraction. The modern spirit is often manifested by the so-called young lady actor showing her independence as regards the person she wishes to marry.

On Christmas day Earl Dome of the Y.M.C.A. was married to Ina Marcellus of the Canadian School. The wedding was celebrated in the home of A. J. Brace which was most beautifully decorated. Music accompanied the whole ceremony. Rose colour predominated which in the candle light gave the whole scene the appearance of fairyland. Fresh roses added to the wealth of beauty.

POLITICS AND BUSINESS.

The political situation remains steady, though some prophecy that thinks are far from being finally settled. Liu Tsen-ho holds

the fort in Chengtu and Hsiong Keh-wu in Chungking.

The merchants are taking advantage of the lull to get their goods up from Shanghai. This has brought out the silver from the hiding places still covered with sand to buy cheques. Business seems fairly good. While brigands are still numerous in the country districts, conditions generally are improving, except taxation, which goes merrily on, to the despair of the farmers.

The soldiers must be paid and kept in good humour or worse will follow, is a good slogan.

One great boon to Chêngtu is the fact that the river seems clear from Chungking and the junks are arriving with stores and goods.

PORTENTS AND OMENS

An Uncanny Time for Kueiyang

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kueiyang, Kuei. Dec. 31.

It is reported here that when the Generals Liu were escaping to Yunnan their escort mutinied and robbed them of all they possessed. It appears that when the ex-Governor arrived at Hingyihsien from Kueiyang his bodyguard asked him for their pay, not only because they wanted it but also because they desired to see what he was prepared to give them for having stood by him. To their surprise they received nothing beyond being told to ask the people for it. As "a half loaf is better than no bread" they requested the people to raise the money necessary to meet their needs, and in order to appease them the gentry and others at Hingyihsien raised some \$3,000 for the bodyguard, but felt bad toward the man who had told his soldiers to ask them for it. The sequel shows that the ex-Governor suffered in the long run for just about the border of the two provinces the bodyguard decided to help themselves, knowing they would receive nothing in the way of a reward at the latter end. The money and booty carried off by the bodyguard is estimated at upwards of \$1,000,000.

A MUDDY WARNING.

The watercarriers have spread the report that the water in a certain well turned muddy days before we had any rain, and it has caused the people to be alarmed. Shortly before the revolution some years ago the water was muddy, and during the ninth moon of the present year it was turbid. The folk say as trouble followed the water becoming muddy on former occasions it will surely follow it on this also. However, we want no such omen to warn us that we are probably in for trouble for the actions of the present leaders are sufficient for that. Mr. Meo Kungshan has disappeared from the city, and after he had retired a letter was received from him stating he has gone into private life. He asks the leaders to try and work

things as well as they can in the interests of the public, and, as is customary under such circumstances, the gentleman regrets he was not able to do more for the public during the time he held office.

"THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING."

Even the elements seem to be out of season now-a-days for this week we have had two thunderstorms accompanied by hail. The hail stones were no larger than usual but the appearance of such a storm at this time of the year is taken as a warning that the price of rice and other foodstuffs will be abnormally high next year. At present the rice is selling at \$40 to \$50 for the ten bushels, and unless the authorities take the matter in hand in the districts where the rice is so dear they will find the situation beyond their control. Owing to the ruthless commandeering of horses and men by the military leaders rice is selling at \$11 to 12 per picul in the capital itself.

The committee of management at the Kiangsi Guildhall in Kueiyang have received a telegram from General Li Lieh-chun asking for the loan of \$200,000. The telegram states if they have not got the money then they had better dispose of their property to raise it seeing it is urgently needed.

It is rumoured that General Wang Hua-i is organizing a large army to march on Kueichow but those who know about his movements say he has left Hungkiang for the good of his health.

Harbin Bomb Outrage

Harbin, Jan. 21.

A packet addressed to M. Toporkoff, the manager of the Chooring Co., exploded at 10.30 this morning, when it was opened by an assistant in the centre of the crowded shop. The assistant and four customers were seriously injured.

It appears that the packet was delivered by a cabman, who, when subsequently arrested, stated that he received it from an unknown person at Pristan (a river-side part of the city).

This is the fourth outrage in the last three months, and it is evident that the object was to create panic and unrest at Harbin. The construction of the bomb indicates the work of an expert.—Reuter.

How Dare They?

Vladivostok, Jan. 20.

Employees of the Dalta News Agency have gone out on strike. They declare that they have not received their wages for the past two months.—Reuter.

M. Paul Claudel, former Minister to Brazil, has been appointed as French Ambassador to Japan, reports a Kokusai-Associated Press (Paris) despatch of 12th instant, M. Baust, the present Ambassador to Tokio having requested to be allowed to retire.

MISSION WORK IN SZECHUAN

Changed Attitude of the Province

From Our Own Correspondent.

Jungshien, Sze., Jan. 3.

This city recently manifested an evidence of the changed attitude of the people generally towards missionaries and mission work. Owing to lack of doctors it became necessary to close the hospital of the Canadian Methodist Mission in this place and the local gentry showed much concern over the matter. When they heard that there was a possibility of a doctor being appointed again to this station they started a subscription list for the renovating and reopening of the hospital. The introduction to the appeal was written by a Hanlin, who had once been a censor at the Manchu Court. The subscription will realize \$1,000, about the amount needed for the re-opening of the plant.

On the day on which the doctor was expected to arrive, the streets were hung with red, and a deputation of the gentry waited outside the city gate, with a supply of crackers in readiness, this being the customary welcome given to magistrates and new officials.

A similar interest is shown in the schools and churches, and the closing of any of them would be considered in the nature of a calamity by a large section of the community.

VISITORS TO THE PROVINCE.

The Canadian Methodist Mission has been favoured by visits from delegations from home, who have come to note the progress of mission work in Szechuan. One party consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, who have been specially interested in the work of the Women's Missionary Society of the Canadian Methodist Church.

Mr. Jackson is a prominent business man in the city of Winnipeg and Mrs. Jackson an energetic worker in the above mentioned society. Another delegation consisted of Dr. F. C. and Mrs. Stephenson, Dr. Stephenson being secretary of the Young People's Forward Movement of the Methodist Church of Canada.

A LEAD REQUIRED.

Appeals for famine relief have reached us and have received a hearty response, at least from the foreigners, and there is no doubt that with a little education as to the need and proper leadership the people would also respond readily. Of course they wait for someone to start off, and in these small cities that someone is usually the local magistrate. Magistrate Len acknowledged that he had received instructions from his superiors to take subscriptions for the famine relief, but he had made no move in the matter until approached by a committee of church people. A meeting was called at which the magistrate was overhead to remark

"these foreigners are more interested in this famine relief than we are," and an appeal was sent throughout the county, but no attempt was made to follow it up and apparently little has resulted. It is an interesting comment upon the position of the church, that some of the gentry remarked when the matter was first broached, "Let the church take the lead and we will all help."

Crops have been very good in this section, but as the country is peaceful just now, considerable rice, is being carried elsewhere for sale and the price, locally, is rising, the *deo* being now 3,700 cash.

Indigo cultivation revived greatly during the war and large crops have been harvested in the surrounding hills. Wood nuts from which wood oil used in varnish making is procured, have been a poor crop in this county.

New Year was celebrated by a flurry of snow which is about as much as we see in this city.

REPRISALS IN CHENG TU

How the Soldiers Celebrated the New Year

From Our Own Correspondent.

Chêngtu, Jan. 4.

The New Year came in with seasonable weather. Cold winds from the Tibetan mountains brought a light flurry of snow and freezing weather. The temperature registered 24 above zero. Two nights of frost brought ice, and the enthusiastic indulged in the luxury of winter ice cream.

All the public offices observed three days of holiday, and the city put on its holiday attire. The soldiers celebrated with another collision with the students. It evidently was in the nature of reprisals, as the military evidently got the worst of the last argument. This attack was entirely unprovoked. The students were celebrating the New Year holidays with a three day theatrical exhibition in the theatre of the public park. Some soldiers attempted to enter without tickets, but were prevented by the students who politely told them they required admittance tickets.

The soldiers went off, but returned with about 200 others, who had stripped all badges of identification from their uniforms to prevent detection. They forcibly entered the theatre, ejected the students with force, and started a general rough house. They broke tables, chairs and sundry other furnishings, finishing with the demolition of three organs. Several students were sent to hospital for treatment.

Now the students have adopted their favourite "*Pah Koh*," and are all on strike, awaiting a settlement. They have forwarded the usual demands for reparation to the Military Governor. Many read into the frequent collisions an attempt to discredit General Liu Chen-hoo

by his military opponents who claim that he is not able to keep order. It is unfortunate that such methods have to be resorted to, as the city is kept in continual uproar by unruly soldiers, and there is little to choose from in the following of the various military camps. The military menace is surely a hardy annual in the west, and responsible for most of our unrest.

IN HONOUR OF THE DEAD.

Now the capital is in its gayest attire for the four days memorial for the soldiers who fell in the recent fighting with the Yunnanese, when the local forces achieved such a notable victory, and threw off the domination of Tang Chi-yao. The *Chueh Tao-hue* is a great affair, and will pass into history as the most notable of its kind in the west. It is being held in the public gardens in the old Manchu city. Never was seen here more elaborate decorations on a stupendous scale, and greater display of *Tue tzes*. These mount into the thousands and are so numerous that hundreds cannot be hung up.

Great processions are daily held in the streets, and all traffic is held up for hours while immense crowds of sightseers watch the battle scarred victorious troops pass in review garlanded with paper flowers and flowing banners. The troops receive generous applause as they march the crowded streets to the big centre where the memorial services for the departed braves are being constantly held. The dead are receiving posthumous honours, and the entire city is doing them homage.

It is to be hoped the whole proceedings will make for a more united people who will continue to stand together for their capital and province, rather than break up into jealous factions seeking their own financial and ambitious ends.

Ningpo Varnish Poisoning

From Our Own Correspondent.

Jungshien, Sze., Jan. 3.

Some time ago I noticed an article in your columns on Ningpo varnish and varnish poisoning, and I have not noticed that any one has offered a cure for the poisoning.

Two methods of dealing with it have come to my notice. The simplest is to use water as hot as can be borne. This will relieve and, if used early enough, cure an attack. It is claimed that boiling water poured over the varnished article will also destroy the poison.

Jefferys and Maxwell in their book, "Diseases of China," give an effective application consisting of four drams of zinc oxide and one dram of carbolic acid in a pint of lime water. This applied on cloths will give much relief.

The Chinese make a pun on the name for the varnish, which has the same sound as the word seven, and say that the attack lasts for seven days, when it will disappear.

THE EARTHQUAKE IN KANSU

Fall in the Price of Wool—An Energetic Magistrate—Well Known Author's Visit

From Our Own Correspondent.

Sining, Ku., Jan. 4.

An earthquake of a rather serious nature alarmed the inhabitants about 7 p.m. on December 16. The vibrations lasted for several minutes. Doors and windows shook and rattled, and in some places walls fell down, but no loss of life occurred. In the afternoon there was a terrific storm of wind blowing in all directions, the dust rising in great whirls, high in the air. It was my misfortune to be on a journey when the storm arose. We were traveling through one of the mountain passes to the city of Huangyuen. Dense clouds of dust swept around and over us, so that we could not even see the beasts on which we were riding, and the tiny pebbles pelted our faces with venom, till our eyes stung with pain. In the evening a few of us were sitting chatting on the *kang*, when it began to sway and we hardly had realized what it was before we swayed again until it became almost like a rocking, then another pause, and a third rocking more serious than the other two. Everything seemed to be shaking, so we got down from the *kang* to go to the door, only to feel very uncomfortable, like sea-sickness and a difficulty in getting to the door, owing to the swaying.

The Chinese and Moslems were both alarmed, the former praying to their gods, and having a procession through the streets the following morning, whereas the latter cried unto Allah in their terror, thinking that the earth was about to open and swallow them up, so prayed that Allah would have mercy on them, and take them up to Himself. The following Sunday crowds attended the Sunday services. The last serious earthquake here was in 1897 but this one lasted longer.

We hear there has been much loss of life in and around Lanchow, the capital, and that all telegraphic communication has been cut off owing to collapse of poles. The earthquake seems to have alarmed the conscience of one individual here who has been making a pile of money the last few years, for the following morning he gave away strings of 500 cash each to a large number of poor people.

BUSINESS STAGNANT.

In the city of Huangyuen (Tankar), where the foreign wool merchants have their native agents, business is at a standstill. There is plenty of wool but no one wants it. Twenty-four catties can be bought for Tl. 1. The Tibetans who have brought the wool for sale find no market for it, consequently they have little or no money to make purchases with, and thus business in this city,

which depends chiefly upon the Tibetans and Mongols, is at a standstill, and the close of the year is likely to see many shut up their shops. Two and a half catties of wool can be bought for the price of one foot of blue calico, so it is much cheaper for the natives to wear home-spun serge than foreign calico. Whereas merchants were paying as much as Tls. 28 to Tls. 30 for 100 catties of wool a few years ago, now 100 catties only cost Tls. 4.

The high rate of exchange, 3,400 cash for Tl. 1, is killing business in this country.

AN ENERGETIC MAGISTRATE.

It is a rare thing to find such an active go-ahead magistrate as the one at Huangyuen. Besides his magisterial duties for over a year he has been superintending the building of several schools, as well as a Uenmiad—Confucius Temple. Already three large school-rooms are in use, and two more are in process of building. On the ground formerly stood the Colonel's yamen which has all been pulled down. The object is to have all the schools on the one premises. There is glass in all the windows and foreign stoves in all the school rooms. The reception rooms are beautifully fitted out. The main entrance is reached by ascending a high flight of stone steps, and the front of the building, which is after foreign style, is all bricked. The visiting inspector says that the schools are the best he has seen in Kansu. The whole plan of the schools was made by the magistrate himself and the building superintended by him. For 20 years he held office in Kashgaria, was in close touch with the Russians and got his ideas from them. He may be found at the schools any day, dressed in a blue cotton gown. He is a native of Hunan.

IS THE TUCHUN GOING?

All sorts of rumours have been afloat concerning the Governor of Kansu lately. It was rumoured that he was willing to retire, but two of his generals would not hear of it, and as it was rumoured that General Mei Fuh-hsiang was on his way to Lanchow to oust the Governor, the above two generals hastened towards Lanchow from Tsinchow and Pingliang to support the Governor and fight if necessary. There is no personal feeling against the Governor himself, who is a generous, jovial, good-hearted man, save that he is an Anhui man and represented the Anfu party. All these rumours have unsettled the financial conditions of the province and the tael notes are now only worth 80 per cent.

Mrs. A. D. Neil, who has been living in one of the mansions at the famous Lamastery at Kumbum for 18 months, translating Tibetan books into the French language, has almost finished her work, and hopes soon to leave for a tour to various cities in Kansu and then go on to Uрга.

We are soon to have the privilege of a visit from Dr. and Mrs. Howard Taylor, who are visiting

THE AMENITIES OF SUCHIEN

From Our Own Correspondent.

Suchien, Ku., Jan. 20.

We are having stirring times here these last two days; news is coming in from Pih sien—a place about 90 li from here,—of a revolutionary plot that has been discovered. Your correspondent cannot vouch for all the truth of it, but has tried as far as possible to get authentic news. Some time ago an influential man—a *sui kuan*, belonging to a good family and an Anfuite—had laid his plans for a plot that was to include Suchien, Haichow and a good part of Anhui. Of the 12 "heads" of the militia in his neighbourhood 10 were in it. Sending out one of his letters, a friend, (of the Anching Huei) saw it, and informed the Magistrate, Chang Teh-ien. The *teli kuan*, whose name is "Chang," having plenty of money, managed to hush things up. Later, however, word arrived from Nanking that he was to be arrested, and word came into Suchien yesterday that he or perhaps an accomplice, took his revenge, and when the magistrate and his son and five others were dining flung bomb into the room and report has it all seven were killed.

As your correspondent has told you in a former letter, the *tufei* are very bad again; this man's soldiers are in league with them and the city gates were opened, and about 2,000 of these robbers were allowed to enter the city. And word has come through to-day they have burned a good part of it. Our soldiers left here last night, also Ein Lao-li, a magistrate very much liked here, but who retired last year into private life, has been sent down from Hsuehfu, and as I write, he has led his soldiers in person to a place about 12 li from Pih sien where they are fighting. On the one hill we boast of they say the cannon reports can be heard.

THE depression in Japanese shipping circles has now reached the rockbottom. At least, that is the general belief. The steamers lying idle at various ports throughout the country number 159, aggregating 107,000 tons or more, and the sailing vessels unemployed number 171, representing a tonnage of over 24,000 tons—a total of 330 ships and upwards of 131,000 tons.

the various mission stations in the province as well as places of interest. We hear they have already arrived at Lanchow and intend leaving there for Liangchow on December 28, arriving in Sining about the middle of January. They hope to make a prolonged stay in this interesting district and visit the Great Butter Festival at Kumbum in February. This famous author of "Growth of a Soul" and other books we believe intends writing a book on their travels.

WORK OF FAMINE RELIEF

People Reduced to Beggary and Doomed: Subscriptions to Shanghai Fund

Writing from Changteh, Honan, Dr. Jean I. Dow draws attention to the appalling child mortality prevailing independent of famine conditions. The number of cases observed is still too small to form a basis for statistics, but it is nothing uncommon to find a mortality of 66 per cent. without any suspicion of death from other than natural causes.

The fact that the life value of the young child is in China the first to be disregarded, suggested a method by which the Woman's Hospital staff at Changteh could make a contribution to the saving of mothers and infants, namely, by giving to persons certified by authorized agents free treatment and hospital care, including board and clothing, during a seven-day period following accouchement, with a monthly grant thereafter up to the end of May, 1921, not exceeding \$2.50 for mother and child. The furnishing of a little information, reinforced by the good offices of Mrs. D. MacGillivray, soon elicited from the Chinese and Foreign Famine Relief Society of Shanghai a grant besides smaller sums from other sources amounting to \$700.

Thanks to the American Red Cross Society's timely post-war appropriation the hospital is in possession of rolls of material, layettes and other requisites, while cases of children's padded suits and second-hand goods sent from the Women's Famine Relief Committee of Shanghai have provided many necessary comforts, besides home-outfits for the babies.

THE RAGGED EDGE OF RUIN.

Mr. J. G. C. Bompas, telling of famine relief at Changteh, Honan, gives a vivid description of conditions in the town of Shweiyie. He says:

We made a door to door investigation, because almost all the people seemed to be on the ragged edge of ruin. Occasionally we struck a home where the inmates were not suffering. Wherever we saw a dog or chicken, for instance, we knew we need not make further investigation. But such places were very few. We looked into 60 or 70 homes that day, and they were all pretty much the same. Ragged clothes and dirty hands and faces served as the signs of abject poverty, while within the home the bareness was almost complete. In most cases we slipped in on them unawares, so they had no time to make things look worse than they really were. Nor indeed was there any need to do so. In most of the homes no food was to be found, except perhaps a few vegetable leaves. Children without proper clothes for the severe weather, and beds without proper bedding, were seen again and again. In many homes we found

the women and children crying. When we asked where the men folk were it was nearly always the same story: they had gone to Shansi or South Honan.

Speaking of beggars to whom a distribution of money was made Mr. Bompas mentions that a great majority of those begging at the present time have only lately been reduced to this condition, and their numbers will be greatly increased before these hard times are over. Once they enter the ranks of the beggars they seem to be doomed.

An Appeal for Volunteers

The China Central Committee has received a request from Mr. J. E. Baker, director of American Red Cross Famine Relief in North China for personnel to assist in supervising the road-building and distribution of food to the labourers employed.

The American Red Cross is anxious to recruit volunteers as far as possible, for every dollar saved in salaries means many more famine sufferers saved from starvation, and besides the service requires more self sacrifice and more enthusiasm than the ordinary paid employee is willing to give.

The Red Cross will provide travelling expenses, food and quarters during the term of enlistment which they are willing to accept from two to six months, the immediate future being the most important. The road-building headquarters are in Tchow, and the work may result in building a highway through to a point on the Peking-Hankow Railway.

During these dull times Shanghai Companies may feel they could contribute the services of one or more of their staff with less inconvenience than a straight contribution to relief funds, and if such is the case the A.R.C. will welcome contributions of personnel. All volunteers are requested to send in a written application to the China Central Committee, 18b Kiangse Road, briefly stating their qualifications and references.

Famine Relief Enterprise in Soochow

From Our Own Correspondent.

Soochow, Jan. 25.

This afternoon at the home of Mr. W. W. Brockman, of the Y. M. C. A., Mr. Charles R. Crane, the American Minister, spoke on the famine and the relief work now being planned and carried on. All the officials were present, the heads of the government and mission schools and the heads of the Chamber of Commerce and various guilds, and many of the leading men.

The aim of the meeting was to boost the many plans that have been made for Tag Day, which is to take place during the Chinese New Year, holidays, when all the population is in the streets; and also the plans for the various "drives." The "drive" for clothing

FUNDS TO FIGHT THE FAMINE

Nationwide Campaign Inaugurated at Peking: The Need of Concerted Action

Peking, Jan. 22.

An intensive nationwide famine fund drive was initiated by the most influential Chinese and foreign leaders, including several cabinet members, at a luncheon given to-day by Dr. Yen, Minister of Foreign Affairs. The campaign, which will be held late in February, will extend over one week, and it is hoped that it will be nationwide in scope. It is strongly recommended that it be carried on under the auspices of the various International Famine Relief Societies.

The Tientsin delegates present at the meeting indicated that their society would undoubtedly unite in the effort.

The Chief Secretary stated that President Hsu would loyally support the campaign.

A strong committee of management has been appointed in Peking to raise a large fund locally, while the committee will co-operate with all other societies in promoting the national campaign.

THE COMMON Foe OF ALL.

Describing the need of concerted action, Dr. Yen said that the most conservative estimate showed 20,000,000 to 30,000,000 facing starvation. As the period of most intense suffering approached it was time to lay aside all political differences to secure a united front against famine as the common foe of all. The relief agencies had accomplished excellent work in their own fields, but the time had arrived for a co-operative campaign. He urged all to give generously.

Admiral Tsai Ting-kan strongly endorsed the work being done by the Peking, Tientsin, Hankow, Kaifengfu, Tsinanfu and Taiyuanfu International Relief Societies.

Mr. Wu Shih-hsiang stated that President Hsu was deeply moved by the appalling conditions in the famine area.—Reuter.

A Chinese press telegram states that on the 24th instant at 8.48 a.m. a collision occurred at Lin-cheng between north bound and south bound locomotives of the Tientsin-Pukow railway. The damage is reported to be heavy.

seems to have started well this afternoon, and it is to be hoped that the final results will be far beyond expectations.

So far every goal has been passed. Some of the churches that made \$1,000 their aim, have more than doubled this amount; and if all the plans that are now being pushed turn out as well, Soochow, as a city, will go well "over the top."

GREAT BRITAIN'S EXPENDITURE

Little Opportunity for Economy and Demands from Many Quarters

From a Correspondent.

London, Dec. 2.

There is no doubt now that the country is thoroughly alarmed by the vast expenditure, mainly of the Government, but also by everybody who is in a position to expend money. For weeks a certain section of the newspapers have been running a campaign against the Government on the ground of waste and even urging the removal of the Prime Minister, not for reasons of policy but because he cannot control the spending of his public departments.

This week the Prime Minister attended the annual dinner of the Federation of British Industries, and he took the opportunity of making a speech on retrenchment and economy, the nature of which may be well gathered from the fact that it has pleased the "Daily News" beyond measure. This journal considers that it was replete with genuine Liberal feeling and based on essentially Liberal lines. The Federation represents—so it claims—all the leading firms of the country and is therefore powerful and very wealthy, and they are campaigning against the Government expenditure; accordingly they felt that it was carrying the war into their own camp when the Prime Minister came down and suggested that, firstly, they should begin to economize themselves, and secondly, that if they had concrete suggestions for Government economy, they should bring them up in a practical form, and not talk vaguely about them.

LIMIT THE BUDGET.

In the House of Commons, Mr. George Lambert, who claims to belong to both the Coalition Liberals and the Free Liberals, is proposing a resolution affirming the principle that under no circumstances shall the Budget of the country be more than 808 millions, as this is the maximum we can afford. He has apparently taken this sum because it represents what Mr. Austen Chamberlain once called the Budget of a normal year, yet it will be easy for the Chancellor of the Exchequer to knock the bottom out of his argument by pointing out that the present year is anything but normal. In fact, we are, I am sorry to say, very far from getting back to purely normal conditions. It is, however, satisfactory that the Government is setting its face firmly against increased cost and yet I notice in the paper a little extract which I quote textually:—

Sir W. Watson Rutherford, M.P., at Whitfield's Tabernacle, Tottenham Court Road, W., last night said 500 deputations were waiting to see the Prime Minister."

SPENDTHRIFT DEPUTATIONS.

What does a statement like this mean? It means that at least 495 of the 500 deputations are waiting to see the Prime Minister to urge increased public expenditure in some form or another. Members go about denouncing the Government for new departmental outlay, while every day they are asking questions in the House and sending petitions and memoranda, all of which entail further public expenditure. Personally, I consider that the individual member of the House is quite as responsible as the Government for the heavy public outlay with which we are now faced. Only this week a member of Parliament sitting for an industrial seat stated with absolute truth that 95 per cent. of the letters he received in his heavy daily mail were asking for money for something or somebody.

It is all very well to urge the Government to be economical, but what can it be economical on? Take the present outlay of the country, roughly 1,200 millions sterling. Of this sum it is impossible to drop more than 450 millions. We cannot default on the interest of our debt; we cannot reduce the rate of the present pensions to the men who suffered in the war; we cannot cut Old Age Pensions; and we have certain other statutory liabilities with which the national credit is absolutely involved. There remain 450 millions, and out of this we have to pay the Army and the Navy, provide for Education, Health, and practically all the public services. What are you going to cut? You cannot cut Army pay, because we have a voluntary system, and we should not get the men unless we paid them all. Indeed, we already have a far smaller army than Belgium and nothing compared with the French Army, which is 700,000 men strong to-day. You can hardly cut the Navy yet, and the only thing you can save on is education, and this of course is violently opposed by all social reformers and by the Labour Party. Mr. Fisher has, however, been piling up the charges for education, which under the new Act would cost 50 millions sterling more than last year. The country is up in arms on the subject, so that the Government has already suspended the operation of the Education Act for one year and may have to suspend it for two years more. Certain economies are, therefore, possible on the 450 millions, but no economy that is proposed by anybody fails to meet with condemnation from some other section of the community.

THE NEED FOR ECONOMY.

It is very clear that we shall not be able to pay off much debt this year. The Excess Profits Tax is a complete failure, in fact it may show a deficit this year and will certainly disappear in the next Budget. If the Government had dropped it in the spring of 1920 it would have saved at least 200 millions sterling, which it has had to refund to firms showing that their annual average profits were under

the datum line. On the other hand, the Federation of British Industries has very stupidly urged the withdrawal of the Corporation Tax. This is a purely selfish recommendation, since the tax has come to stay, and is not strongly opposed by the public, and it will be increased next year. No doubt business firms are in a bad way, or they would have paid the 238 millions sterling arrears of the Excess Profits and the 78 millions arrears of Income Tax. We cannot, in these circumstances, adopt a stupid policy of retrenchment. The State must always make certain outlay on the principle that if you have a few slates off your roof and an overdraft at the bank it is none the less essential to have the repairs effected rather than let the water trickle in to the room below and bring down the ceiling. We must, however, postpone till easier times a good many of the reforms we should have liked to have introduced, and there are very few people who do not welcome the great anti-waste movement which is spreading over the country. The depression is already bringing down many firms, notably luxury firms, with a crash, and it would not be surprising to me to find that there were big failures on a very large scale within the next six months. None the less it behoves everybody to go slow at least for a year to 18 months, and it is now clear that, whereas we thought the two years immediately following the war would be the worst for the period of reconstruction, the third and fourth will be far the most serious. It is not pleasant to be so pessimistic, but undoubtedly we have to be careful.

Mrs. Charles Burnett, wife of Colonel Charles Burnett, Military Attaché to the United States Embassy in Japan, is accorded the distinction of being placed among the foremost rank of Japanese poets in consequence of her New Year's poem, "Before the Shrine of Ise at Dawn." Mrs. Burnett is the first foreign woman to have her verse read before the Imperial Family in Phoenix Hall at the Palace.

WITHOUT PURE BLOOD HEALTH IS IMPOSSIBLE VETARZO BLOOD MEDICINE

Never before was there anything like it, nor can its marvellous properties ever be equalled in all cases of poorness, impurity, or other imperfection of the blood from whatever cause arising. No sooner is it imbibed into the system than it permeates and penetrates to the minutest capillaries, overcoming and expelling disease, wheresoever and in whatsoever form met with; removing all blotches, pimples, scurf, scurvy, scrofulous and glandular swellings, discolorations, roughness and unsightly patches. Its effects are almost magical in the treatment of gout, rheumatism, sciatica, lumbago, pain and swelling of the joints, blood poison, eczema, lepra, psoriasis, bad legs, bad breasts, abscesses, ulcers, wounds, sores, goitre or Derbyshire neck; it improves the general health, and quickly removes long-standing bronchitis, asthma, and hacking, straining, spasmodic cough, too often the precursor of consumption.

LIFE WITHOUT HEALTH IS LIVING DEATH VETARZO BRAIN AND NERVE FOOD

The latest discovery of modern times for premature decay or deficiency of vital forces. Bracing up the system generally, it gives tone to the exhausted nerves, restores the falling energies, and imparts new life and vigor to those who seemed played out, used up and valueless.

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SCOTTISH LETTER

Barometric Readings: "Very Wet"
in Edinburgh, "Drought"
in the Hebrides

From Our Own Correspondent.

Edinburgh, Dec. 8.

The "wet" or "dry" election in Edinburgh resulted in a severe defeat for the Prohibitionists. The vote was all one way, No-Change. After the reverses sustained by Local Veto in so many parts of the country, it was hopeless for the temperance men to regard Edinburgh, with its strongly entrenched brewery and distillery industries, as a probable convert to no-licence. But it is surprising to find that the "Trade" has made a clean sweep of the capital. Not in any ward, east or west, north or south, has the poll extinguished even one licence.

As it was in Glasgow a few weeks ago, so it was in Edinburgh five days ago. Indeed, from a Prohibitionist point of view, the vote is even worse than in Glasgow. The most plague-stricken wards of Edinburgh have utterly refused to be reformed. St. Giles, which is pock-marked with "pubs," will not lose one of its scars. And other districts, densely populated by labourers and artisans, have with equal decisiveness pronounced for No-Change. It is, however, more remarkable that suburban residential areas like Morningside, Newington, and Merchiston, though reporting large minorities, entirely failed to secure even limitation. It is plain that a tremendous amount of spade work will have to be done if local vetoists are to score so much as a minor triumph in Edinburgh three years hence, when the next election takes place.

In order to give a fair representation of the election and its result, it is necessary to look at the other side of the question. Even in the pronouncedly "wet" regions of Edinburgh there are thousands of earnest people who heartily wish for a better state of things. The construction of the Act, however, denied them the means of expressing their views. The "Trade" know this quite as much as the Prohibitionists. Though Edinburgh voted No-Change, it did not declare against reform. The citizens expect change for the better; they demand it; and the "Trade" must bear this in mind. The demand for reform is very strong in every newspaper in Scotland, even in those journals who have leant towards the "Trade." In fact, No-Change does not mean a vote for *status quo*. What may be done in the next three years will have a powerful effect on the local option election that will then take place. And the "Trade" has promised reform.

SCOTLAND'S SAHARA.

Lewis, after May 28, next, will not have a single liquor bar or licensed grocery. From the Butt of Lewis to Tarbert-Harris—a distance of 50 miles—the hardy

pedestrian of next summer will travel without a solitary legal opportunity to wet his whistle,—unless he goes round by Stornoway and takes a meal. But indeed the whole of the Long Island is included in the arid region; there are already neither bars nor grocer's licences in Harris, so that the whole way from the Butt of Lewis to Rodel in the south will be as dry as Sahara, a distance of about 60 miles.

A drought which affects an area of 770 square miles and a population of over 30,000 ought to make the Pussyfoots purr with gladness. Geographically, at all events, it marks the biggest triumph Prohibition has yet had in any part of the United Kingdom. Of course this victory for "dryness" is not to compare in importance with the gain of one ward in Glasgow or Greenock. Stornoway is the only town in Lewis proper, and has a population of 4,000, greatly augmented in the fishing season. It was always disorderly in the fishing months, and the popular feeling has for long been against licences. A daily turn-over of £250 was not uncommon with individual licence holders, and men who had the good fortune to obtain licences made their fortunes in a decade or less. And now Stornoway has declared for the shutting up of all bars and the withdrawal of grocers' licences.

NO COMPLICATED CONVIVIALITY.

There are, of course, hotels in Stornoway, and with a meal in any of them a customer may be entitled to a dram. But few fishermen care to complicate an occasion for conviviality with a meal—an hotel meal especially. Henceforward, also, there will no opportunity to fill water beakers with beer or spirits. But the confectionary trade of Stornoway is likely to become very brisk. For the Hebridean fisherman is a great consumer of sweets, and lays in "pan-drops" by the stone.

A day will come, perhaps, when those who desire to know what the social customs in the Lewis were in the 19th century, will find no surviving examples, and will have to depend on their reading of the fictions of William Black and Dr. Cameron Lees.

In truth the Hebridean crofter, though he may be the most devout of Wee Frees—the Presbyterian Wee Frees, not the political ones—has very rarely a fanatical objection to alcohol, but he is far from the temptations of the tavern, which he may visit no oftener than two or three times a year. A little jar at the New Year was the extent of his domestic indulgence, and even the smallest of jars has now become too costly a luxury for the crofters. And there is no illicit distillation; the ancient art of the "little black pot" has been forgotten.

FROM MAJOR TO PRIVATE.

Major J. A. Paterson, the famous Arsenal left winger, has joined the London Scottish Territorials as a private. In many respects his career has been a remarkable one. His father, who was a United Free

Church minister in Glasgow, died at a comparatively early age; and, in order to be able to pursue his medical studies the Major joined the Glasgow Rangers F. C. Notwithstanding the severe calls made upon him by professional football engagements, he worked hard, and was eventually successful in obtaining his degree. For two years during the war, Major Paterson acted as medical officer of the London Scottish in France; but of course in now joining the regiment, he had to follow the strict rules laid down for its recruits, and he is only Private Paterson. Needless to say his appearance in the ranks of the men in hodden grey has been received with great enthusiasm.

JEWS AND SCOTS.

The other day the London "Times" dealt editorially with Jews and Scots, its remarks being based on the Lord Chief Justice's objection in a recent case to an attempt to discredit a witness by asking him if he were a Jew. Mr. Justice Darling tried to broaden and sweeten the argument by recalling that on the previous week, in a Glasgow case, he had himself admitted Scottish nationality, to help a witness who was charged with the same to his disadvantage.

The "Times" says there is one curious distinction between the Jew and the Scot when they have prospered in England. The Jew is inclined to proclaim himself an Englishman with an undue vehemence; the Scot is convinced that he has retained all the characteristics of his race except its accent. "But the common ground of complaint against both," we are told, "is closely similar. Both are supposed to have an almost diabolical acuteness in money matters, expressing itself, according to the character of the individual, as meanness, hard bargaining, or even dishonesty." The "Times" adds that both races also throw up a type wildly reckless in material things, almost extravagantly idealistic in the things of the mind. England and the world owe much to what we sometimes call the "orientalism of Jews, and to what a mediæval Pope described as *"ingenium perfervidum Scotorum."*

GOLF IN THE OLD DAYS.

Standardization is all the cry in these days, but 50 years ago, when Sheriff Lyell was young, he says that clubs did not worry about such matters as number of holes or allocation of handicaps. There were, for instance, 18 holes at St. Andrews, six at Brunsfield, nine at Musselburgh, seven at North Berwick, and 11 at Elie. Monthly competitions were unknown. You played a match with a friend, half-a-crown being the usual stake, and you allowed him a third or a half, or perhaps you were the receiver of the odds, and there was an end of it.

The putting greens were rough, and there were no prepared tees. You simply stepped about three yards from the hole previously played, and kicked up a little bit of turf for the ball to rest on, or else scooped up some sand from the

bottom of the hole. You were permitted to smooth the way to the hole with your wooden putter, and consequently heavy putters were much in request. There were no niblicks in those days. The equivalent implement was known as a sand iron, and a heavy, ugly club it was.

ST. ANDREW'S DAY GREETINGS.

Scots clubs, notably Burns' and St. Andrew's clubs, have a pleasant custom of exchanging greetings on their festival nights. Many of them are in verse, of course Doric verse. This year a number of the verses were topically Pussyfoot. The message from the Huddersfield Club was headed "St. Andrew's Weather Note—Wet—No Change," and it ran thus:—

Tae Brither Scots owner a' the earth,
Aince mair a hearty greetin',
In Scotland there is still nae dearth
O' ilka kind o' "weetin'";
Frae cloudy skies there's sap eneu.
An' for the social meeting
There's aye a drap o' mountain dew
Tae gie an inward heatin';
But wae's me for puir Sandy's gill
Gin Pussyfoot had had his will.
Another effusion was to this effect:—

Though Pussyfoot may do his worst,
The genial Scot has still a thirst.

A DIVINITY COLLEGE LUNCH.

The other day I lunched in the dining hall of an Edinburgh Divinity College, where it is the custom to sing the grace after meat. The budding divines chanted with all their might—

From the best bliss that earth imparts
We turn to Thee unfilled again,
—words which, considering the lunch, did not surprise me.

SHANGHAI readers will be interested to hear that the January recital of the music school of the Peking Institute is to be given by Mr. Ernest Hall, formerly a very well known pianist in Shanghai, assisted by Mrs. Little, soprano, and Mr. Taussig, viola. Mr. Hall is a first-rate musician and was organist at Union Church for a number of years before Mr. Young. He was in the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, which he left to take a high position in the Canton-Kowloon Railway. He was patriotic enough to resign a fine position directly the war broke out, and was in the army in France, reaching the rank of captain. Mr. Hall returned to China recently, and is now in a position in Peking.

EVENTS IN NORTH MANCHURIA

The Plague at an End: Heavy Export Tax Levied on Raw Material

From Our Own Correspondent.

Hailar, Jan. 5.

Notwithstanding reports that have recently appeared to the contrary the slight epidemic of plague which occurred at Hailar during October and November last has now entirely disappeared, for since the middle of December there have been no fresh cases whatsoever. This being the case the order of the Chinese military authorities not allowing any railway communication between Transbaikalia and Manchouli is now, *de facto*, a totally unnecessary measure and is likely to be rescinded immediately seeing that Dr. Wu Lien-teh, the head of the Plague Prevention Committee in Manchuria, has reported that there is no further danger of it spreading.

From statistics that are to hand the only cases of plague that have been recorded in Transbaikalia this winter were seven cases at the villages of Abagatui and Daouria in September, and eight cases at the village of Kailasteusky, in October. No cases at all occurred at the frontier town of Manchouli, so it appears pretty clear that the epidemic that occurred at Hailar was not brought in by Zabaikal railway, seeing that many thousands of refugees and White troops crossed over into Chinese territory during October and November.

At Hailar itself the first suspicious cases occurred in the middle of October when some Chinese coolies employed in skinning carcasses in the native city of Hailar were taken sick and died. The representatives of the Plague Prevention Committee who had been sent to Hailar have actually traced the source of these plague cases to a village some 30 li away from Hailar, where whole families died of the disease. Doctors were sent to the village in question and all the infected huts in which deaths took place were razed to the ground. As a precautionary measure nobody was allowed for some time to enter or leave the Chinese city of Hailar without a special permit, where in all there have been some 20 deaths. This restriction has now been done away with.

DODGING THE QUARANTINE.

For some time past no railway tickets have been sold to Chinese at Hailar station, whilst foreigners before they can purchase a ticket are asked by the doctor whether they have had any dealings with Chinese. This in itself is a very slack quarantine measure, and nobody living in Hailar was actually hampered by it. The Chinese who wanted to go to any other place simply jumped on the train without a ticket, for there was no

cordon of police to prevent this, whilst foreigners wishing to leave knew that they had only to tell the doctor that they had no business with Chinese in order to buy a ticket.

As no cases have occurred at any other stations or towns along the railway line notwithstanding the inadequate quarantine measures being taken it shows clearly that the outbreak was of a very light nature and not a true epidemic. As a matter of fact it calls for no special attention, for there are cases every winter at Hailar and the natives themselves take very little notice of same.

TARIFF REFORMERS AT WORK.

Hailar, lying quite close to the Mongolian frontier, is a most important station for the export of raw products, such as hides, skins, furs, wool, hair and frozen meat. Exporters this year are being very much handicapped by a likin levy equal to about 8 per cent. of the value on all products sent away by rail from Hailar. This levy is being made by the Hailar Tax Bureau—Tsun Shui Chu—who even have their officials at the railway station and actually prevent, with the assistance of soldiers, shippers from loading into cars unless the tax is paid.

It is stated that this Tax Bureau has requested the Hailar station-master, not to accept any goods as freight unless these goods bear the chop of the Tax Bureau, but that the latter would not comply with request for he has instructions from the Railway Administration not to take any notice of this demand. Seeing that owing to this measure the Railway is losing quite a lot of freight returns it is certainly up to the management to see that this illegal taxation—which is levied on foreigner and Chinese alike—is done away with, and that the Tax Bureau officers be not permitted on the station.

BAREFACED ROBBERY.

The railway officials at Hailar have numerous complaints against the Chinese soldiers belonging to the Brigade of the Chinese Defence Commissioner, and appeal in vain to the Commander, Chang Kwei-wu, who appears quite indifferent in the matter. Bodies of these men come to the station with native carts and unload both coal and wood from the railway trucks without the least ceremony, the militia appear to be helpless against these soldiers for the latter are a rowdy lot and always ready to start a fight. The fuel that is carried away is not used for the purpose of heating the soldiers' barracks, but is taken to the native city where it is publicly offered for sale. Seeing that the price asked is under the ruling market price the soldiers have no difficulty in disposing of their loot.

Simionov's mother, who has been a resident of Hailar for some time past, died quite recently. Her funeral was attended by a large number of officers, who turned out to pay their last respects to their late commander's aged parent.

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CURE FOR ASTHMA

NEW YORK LETTER

Nerves in the Business World: Trade Depression: The Japanese Scare

From a Correspondent.

New York, Dec. 19.

The one topic of the day throughout the country, and especially in New York City, is: Bad Business, Its Causes, Effects, Rise and Fall. Everyone speaks of what the newspapers euphemistically call "the process of liquidation." Men engaged in every line of commercial endeavour are not so moderate in their characterization of the present business depression. It is felt generally in financial circles that, were it not for the existence of the Federal Reserve System, by which the member banks can discount their commercial paper with a government institution, we should now be witnessing one of the worse financial panics in the history of the country. Instead of which there is a dead calm. In every line of business, with the possible exception of some of the food trades, no business is being transacted, which gives the normally active American business man plenty of time to pay attention to rumours.

THE CUBAN TRANSACTIONS.

Rumour of the heavy losses met by one of our largest single import and export houses, have been circulating freely during the last few weeks, and although repeated denials have been made of these rumours, the general opinion among business men is that where there is smoke there is fire. This firm is known to have lost considerable sums in South American coffee transactions, when the price of coffee fell rapidly. Losses have also been sustained by many large houses in Cuba, due to the drop in the price of sugar and the subsequent declaration of a moratorium, which has not yet been lifted. A large perfume manufactory recently offered to finance completely shipments of its goods to Cuba merchants, if those merchants would give guarantees of payment immediately after the lifting of the moratorium, but this generous offer was turned down, because the Cuban merchants said that they already have too many outstanding debts, which must be paid as soon as the end of the moratorium.

CANCELLATION AND CONTRACTS.

In his latest collection of travel papers, "Letters of Travel" Rudyard Kipling says: "He (a foreigner) knows that the maxim in London, Yokohama and Hongkong in doing business with the purebred American is to keep him waiting, for the reason that forced inaction frets the man to a lather, as standing in harness frets a half-broken horse." Never was the truth of this statement so adequately illustrated as at the present time in New York. Forced inaction is fretting most business

men here to a lather. A dynamo cannot be brought to silence "chop chop" without damage to the machinery. Nerves may, therefore, be responsible for the wholesale cancellation of contracts in which men have been indulging to the detriment of their business reputations, or it may only be nerve.

The pages of the "Journal of Commerce" these days look like a premillennialist prediction of the end of the world. Textile mills, shirt factories, lumber yards, mines, steel mills, are all shutting down or cutting wages 20 per cent. and more. Some business is being transacted with Mexico, where the inauguration of General Alvaro Obregon has given promise of stable political conditions. The exchange makes it impossible to do business with South American countries, and the Chinese and Japanese trade, as you know, has been at a standstill. There are rumours of a revival in Japan, and many firms report inquiries from Japanese importers.

EVERYONE CUTTING WAGES.

In New York the large department stores have been noticeably empty this year, and the oldest residents are commenting on the small Christmas shopping. The Post Office Department reports that the Christmas mail is exceedingly light. The consumer has been economizing this year for Christmas, because large wage reductions and great unemployment make Christmas a luxury beyond the means of many who have been used to denying themselves nothing that their war wages could purchase.

The retail prices have not come down, because the retailers have been making a last frantic stand to hold prices at their high levels until after Christmas buying. This appears to be a shortsighted policy from the results which the light Christmas shopping indicate. It is the opinion of wholesale merchants that the retail stores will have to unload their stocks immediately after Christmas, and that course will make it necessary for them to purchase once more at the prevailing low wholesale prices. The virtual boycott of the retail merchants by consumers will make it necessary for the retailers to lower prices immediately after January 1.

THE OPTIMISTS.

The First of January is the mystic day, when according to some business specialists and experts business will have to pick up. But this attitude is much the same as that of the Chinese merchant, who used to tell us that business would revive after the Dragon Boat Festival or the Chinese New Year, or the Hangchow Bore, or any other number of days in the future. If business does not revive after January 1, the professional predictors will undoubtedly say, "Wait until March 4," that being the day of the inauguration of President-elect Harding. If a change of horses in the government stables does not produce immediate

spot business, we shall probably be told to wait until July 1, the end of the fiscal year, and then we shall be informed that no one can do business during the summer, and we must wait until the autumn.

No one knows, and everyone guesses. Meanwhile, Judge Elbert H. Gary, head of the United States Steel Corporation, Frank A. Vanderlip, former president of the National City Bank, and other financiers have been making speeches predicting that this country is on the crest of a boom, and that we shall soon see the most prosperous days we have ever seen. The ordinary business man who has no orders and can get no money from the bank does not see the point of view of these gentlemen, and it seems to be derived from too close a study of their own bank accounts.

THE DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPAN.

The relations of this country and Japan are occupying considerable attention here. We are told next to nothing of the negotiations which have been progressing between Roland S. Morris and Ambassador Shidehara. The newspaper correspondents have merely been told that negotiations have been brought to satisfactory conclusions. What those conclusions are we shall not know until it is too late to do anything about them, which is the way of the world, including President Wilson.

Meanwhile, the policy of "soft soap," is still being applied vigorously. At a dinner of the Japan Society held in New York this week, of which Mr. Frank A. Vanderlip, president of that society, was the chairman, Judge Elbert H. Gary said that if a conflict came between this country and Japan, the United States would be more at fault than Japan. Judge Gary is of the opinion that this country is overrun with people who wish to make a nuisance of themselves and thereby create wars. In the same breath he said that these people are ignorant of Japan and the Japanese and have not visited Japan, as he did in 1916. Why anyone who is ignorant of Japan and the Japanese and who has not visited that country, or California, should wish to foment war between the two countries is something which Judge Gary did not explain. He expressed it as his earnest opinion that Japan is the best friend that America has, and that the United States is Japan's best friend.

THE YAP CABLE DISPUTE.

The cable controversy over the Island of Yap, - connecting the cables from Shanghai to San Francisco, has also been brought to a satisfactory conclusion, we are told, but what conclusions have been reached we are not told. Acting Secretary of State Norman S. Davis went before the Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate and laid the controversy over these cables before the Senators. He received the unanimous support of the Senate Committee in favour of

firm adherence to the American contention that the Island of Yap cables should be internationalized.

DR. WELLINGTON KOO'S TRIUMPH.

The victory of V.K. Wellington Koo at the Geneva session of the League of Nations has aroused great interest in this country. Several days before Wellington Koo won a seat on the council of the League for China, Baron Hayashi, Japan's representative gave an interview to the correspondent of the "New York Times," in which he said that Japan was anxious to deal with China on the Shantung question, and that Japan looked with approval at the great development which China was showing. He said that he confidently expected that within the next 15 or 20 years China would be welcome as a member of the Council of the League of Nations, if she kept up her present rate of improvement. It was less than one week after this interview that Wellington Koo won what Hayashi predicted would take 15 or 20 years for China to accomplish. It is the general impression of the editorial writers here that China's victory at the League of Nations session will mean strength in her fight for the restoration of Shantung.

REPORTED SUICIDE AT KOBE

Foreign Lady's Body Recovered

From Our Own Correspondent.

Kobe, Jan. 21.

The body of Miss Bertha Baumann, a Swiss stenographer, who arrived here on Christmas Day to join Messrs. Sulzer Bros, was found in the harbour here last evening.

The lady is believed to have committed suicide by drowning on Wednesday evening.

Long-distance Flight in Indo-China

Paris, Jan. 20.

French military aviators have just accomplished two remarkable exploits with Breguet machines in Indo-China.

Without any special preparation, the Governor-General of Indo-China was conveyed from Hanoi to Saigon. The first part of the journey was made by aeroplane from Hanoi to Thakhek, on the north-eastern bend of the Mekong, a distance of over 500 kilometres, while the remainder—about 1,000 kilometres—was accomplished by seaplane, making a total of over 1,500 kilometres.

The second flight was in the extremely mountainous and difficult region of Laos. Both flights were carried out with complete success, and without any mishap to person or machine.—French Wireless through Reuter.

ARRANGING THE IRISH DEAL

The General Search for Peace

From a Correspondent.

London, Dec. 9.

Everyone is trying to search for the Golden Bridge in Ireland—except, may be, the extremists who do not specially want any settlement, since lawlessness, like a vice, grows on those who are addicted to it.

Yet we fancy, without attaching too great weight to the unofficial negotiations now in progress, that something may come out of them—if not now at all events in the near future. Life is admittedly not pleasant in Ireland; the Sinn Fein gunmen "hold up" and massacre the forces of the Crown when they get a chance and the papers—pretty powerful—of the ex-service men speak with exceeding bitterness of this form of lurking warfare, repellent to men who faced the open enemy at the Front for so many years across the channel.

On the other hand the forces of the Crown are carrying out raids on a large scale and making arrests in plenty while at times the bitterness engendered by ambushes leads to reprisals on pretty comprehensive lines. No doubt there is much that none of us like but the British public as a whole is very hostile to the Sinn Fein methods which started the bloodshed and for that reason it is not possible—pace Mr. Asquith—to try and work up a sort of frenzied agitation suggestive of the Midlothian campaign of 30 years ago. Besides, we have no statesman capable of carrying the oriflame across the country on the Gladstonian lines and if the essay is made and fails it does more harm than good.

THE LABOUR ATTEMPT.

The Labour Party have plunged in to try and settle matters; it is not their first attempt. This was some little time ago and it failed because it was always thought that the proposals for a settlement were not sufficiently practical and moderate to attract the unemotional but level-headed Englishman. At any rate they were soon forgotten. Now a little band of leaders of the Party have crossed, interviewed leading Sinn Feiners—mostly in gaol—and then come back to make specific recommendations to the Prime Minister. We all know what they are—"frank and free discussions" between three representatives each of the Cabinet, the Sinn Feiners and the Irish Labour Party. Mr. Henderson holds that a Round Table Conference would soon produce a truce and afterwards a settlement. It might, but the first paramount consideration is whether such a conference would bind anybody. The Acting President of Sinn Fein telegraphed to Mr. Lloyd George in favour of negotiations but he

was promptly repudiated by his own people and there is no sign as yet that any better fate would await an imitator. Yet we shall come back to a form of Dominion Home Rule with no army, navy or foreign relations and with an agreed contribution to Imperial matters. The Lords are mauling about the Government Home Rule and will thus place the Cabinet in rather an embarrassing position since Ministers cannot possibly accept the changes and yet if the Upper House stands firm and the Bill is lost, the old original Act of the Asquith Government must come into existence. No one seems very excited since we all know the suggested settlement is wellnigh hopeless, and we are inclined to believe the Prime Minister would welcome an opportunity of mediating his own measure.

A CHANCE FOR THE CHURCH.

In any event Ulster will be left out of any settlement. One doubts if the Sinn Feiners would be prepared to conquer it by force if they could; they would be more likely to coerce it into union by a commercial boycott, which might be made very effective. Everyone knows that Ulster's acceptance of the Government bill makes the position worse than ever. The Friends who recently sent a deputation to Ireland came back with the conviction that Ulster's point of view rendered any simple solution impossible of realization and Sir Edward Carson by agreeing to the Government proposals has made Mr. Lloyd George unable to go readily and cheerfully any further on the road to Dominion Home Rule.

Yet if the Catholic Church likes to move at this juncture we shall have peace in Ireland. It is still omnipotent despite the indifference of the younger revolutionaries. There is, though, no sign of it, since one clerical voice means little. The Cabinet on its part is not pushing things. It knows how far it is prepared to go and it is not going any further under pressure. Its optimism seems to grow daily and indeed it would appear that the policy of perpetual harassing is slowly meeting with its reward. The crimes are for the moment fewer though at any minute there may be a sudden outbreak. Outside Ireland the determination of the British public to crush outrages seems to be regarded as a warning. Yet none the less we would sincerely like to settle the whole affair on any reasonable lines. The difficulty is to find the reasonable people. But we do not despair. And perhaps the settlement may come sooner than many imagine.

THE Japanese now in Berlin for the special purpose of studying Germany's methods of conducting the world war have purchased the patents to a new German war invention, the "shell-less cartridge," according to a special despatch cabled to the Washington "Herald" by Karl H. von Wiegand.

AUSTRALIAN NOTES

Not a Merry Christmas—Economic Reaction—High Wages
and Little Work—The Wool Question—Reducing
the Cost of Government

From Our Own Correspondent

Melbourne, Dec. 20.

The extremist elements in the labour unions are doing their best to make the return from general public extravagance to normal living as difficult as possible, and, with the perversity of the extremist nature, they refuse to recognize that with financial stringency and falling prices the employers themselves are not averse from a little idleness. The number of unemployed is rapidly increasing, and until well into the new year it is unlikely that there will be much improvement. I mentioned the threatened trouble in the shipping a fortnight ago. That trouble has been accentuated since. Steadily, as steamers in the coastal trade reach their home ports, the crews are being paid off the moment fresh demands are made. The latest feature has been a demand on behalf of the marine stewards.

These men secured an award of the Arbitration Court no longer ago than last June, by which their average wages, including keep and overtime, were raised to £22 a month. The present demand would, the employers assert, increase this figure to £28. After all this in itself would mean only an additional £120,000 a year to the cost of running the whole of the coastal passenger ships, but the owners know that it is not likely to be the final demand. Immediately it were granted other awards and agreements would be torn up. The stewards have adopted the stand-and-deliver method, and the owners are promptly paying off crews and will in due course appeal to the Arbitration Court for the cancellation of the June award.

The Waterside Workers have also rushed into the fray with further demands, the most noticeable of which is that the employers should provide them with free carriage by vehicles or trams to and from their work. Both the retiring President and Deputy President of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court have practically washed their hands of the unions, declaring that they cannot have strikes and arbitration simultaneously. There is very little of the usual Christmas business, and thousands, who usually make holiday trips to pleasure resorts throughout Australia, will this year, either because they have not the spare cash or because travelling facilities are restricted, stay at home.

The small island State of Tasmania lives largely on tourists, about 3,000 usually visiting its resorts from the mainland at this time of the year. Now the regular steamer service is held up and though a hoot is heard of small craft plying to and fro, the average tourist dare not risk being unable to return when his holiday finishes.

If the desire of the agitator is to make the proletariat suffer he is succeeding. In Melbourne by the end of this week there will probably be 10,000 unemployed, in Sydney the number is not quite so great because there is no shortage of coal to close down the factories. In Brisbane the unemployed are rapidly increasing, and the Government is striving to raise £2,000,000 for the purpose of giving work. Tasmanian workers will lose the £60,000 or thereabouts that the tourists usually spend at this time of the year, while in the other two States—South and West Australia—there is some unemployment, though in the absence of labour agitators on a grand scale the position is not so acute.

HIGH WAGES AND IDLENESS.

In the final result, as matters adjust themselves, there will be plenty of employment again but at a lower rate of wages than has been ruling for the last few years, and as the cost of living continues to fall the reduction in wages will not be seriously felt. The following table made up from official figures will be of interest as showing that as the rise in wages exceeded the increased cost of living, so was there more idleness amongst the workers.

Year	Increase in wage rate per cent.	Increase in cost of living per cent.	Number of days lost through industrial disputes. No.
1914	0.9	3.1	1,090,395
1915	1.6	12.1	583,225
1916	7.4	3.6	1,678,930
1917	5.7	0.5 (Dec.)	4,599,658
1918	3.5	3.3	580,853
1919	12.8	10.9	5,652,726

In the year just ending it will probably be found that the actual number of working days lost through disputes was not as great as in 1918, when wages and living costs increased equally. There have been some increases in wages, but generally none of considerable importance. At the same time towards the end of this year the cost of living has fallen. The facts seem to indicate that the peaks of industrial unrest and high prices have been reached. The folly of the organized workers lies in the fact that they will follow leaders who cannot understand the position, with the result that not only are men thrown out of employment because of restricted production, but thousands, who might be at work, make themselves idle voluntarily, striving to leap upwards from the summit of the peak which they have scaled.

THE WOOL DIFFICULTY.

When the Imperial Government bought the Australian wool clip for three years, and paid for it

in advance of shipment, the producers rejoiced mightily, and Australia's mercantile credits in London stood high. When the Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes, suggested that the new clips, not purchased by the Imperial Government, should be kept in hand until the huge Imperial purchase had been unloaded he was viciously attacked and accused of domineering interference with private enterprise. Wool auctions have been held since, but buyers are shy. There are in Australia about 2,500,000 bales of wool, bought by Great Britain, still awaiting sale. The woollen manufacturers of the Old Country look to get this wool, worth about £60,000,000, for a comparative trifle, leaving the new Australian wool, both this year and next, and possibly the year after, to find a market as best it can, whatever the price.

There has now been devised a scheme to avert this disaster. Briefly it is proposed that an Australian Wool Association, with a capital of £25,000,000, should be empowered by the Imperial Government to unload the accumulated stocks to the best advantage, and it is believed the Imperial Government has given the plan its approval. Hence the outcry in the woollen manufacturing centres of England.

While it is impossible to foresee the time when Australia will consume the whole of her own wool, she is at last embarking on the business of woollen manufactures with some little energy. There are mills now at work, and it was stated by an authority in parliament the other day that a further 24 would very shortly be in operation. There is little question that a good deal of the financial stringency of the moment is due to the fact that we have already exhausted the credit of the accumulated wool, paid for in advance, while it continues to stand in the way of the rapid marketing of the new clip which has come in.

COMMERCIAL AVIATION.

If Australia had to wait until the end of the war before its people practically saw an aeroplane, the journey of Sir Ross Smith, and later of Parer and others from England to Australia per aeroplane, has given aviation in this country a great impulse. The British military authorities have also supplied aeroplanes, and private enterprise is pushing forward with aviation on its commercial side.

Before Parliament adjourned the other day it had passed a preliminary Air Navigation Bill, in accordance with an agreement with the States. That Bill practically empowered the Government to make regulations, and the Minister introducing it stated the regulations would be in accord with the decisions of the Paris international conference on the subject. The first purpose of course is to insist upon air-worthiness of both men and machines. Flights between Melbourne and Darwin now attract little attention. When the Prince of Wales was leaving

Australia an aeroplane from Adelaide to Sydney brought him the latest English mail. The other day a business man flew from Perth on the Western coast to Sydney on the East, a distance of 2,430 miles. He left Perth at 5 a.m. on a Tuesday and reached Sydney at 3 p.m. on the Thursday following. The actual flying time was 21 hrs. 35 min., so that the speed of flight averaged 113 miles an hour.

Had he travelled by rail *via* Adelaide, the distance would have been 330 miles longer. He would have been going day and night and the time occupied would have been 108 hours, or nearly double the whole time used by the flier from Perth. A proposition is now before the Government from a well-known aeroplane company, to carry mails three times a week between Adelaide and Sydney. At present the mails between these two cities come *via* Melbourne over 1,071 miles of railway, the journey occupying two days and six hours, including stoppages and transfers where the railway gauges break. The Company proposes to carry the mails up to 20,000 letters per machine so that they will do the journey in about a day. The importance of the proposal lies in the fact that it will enable all the mails *via* Suez to be delivered in Sydney as early as in Melbourne, a matter of no little moment when business transactions are involved. For the present at least the Defence (military) Department is administering the aviation regulations.

WE ARE SEVEN.

The local critics of the Australian constitution are to be heard daily complaining that the country is overgoverned. We have seven governors, seven governments and seven parliaments, which is of course true. Before Federation we had six of each and there was no one to ask that the principle of devolution, which created these governments and parliaments, should be reversed. To-day there is a strong movement in New South Wales for the subdivision of that state and the creation of yet more governments and parliaments, while in Queensland a similar movement which had vigour 20 years ago occasionally acquires some activity. The United States have, besides their President and Congress, 51 governors and 51 parliaments, and it was upon the American principle that the Australian constitution was based.

For a number of years the Commonwealth has been endeavouring to prevent the duplication of its own and the State activities, but a strong sense of self importance and a belief in their sovereign rights have kept all the State authorities in full blast, with the Commonwealth authority added thereto. It is this fact which has been the cause of hostile criticism. At last it would seem that the States are gradually coming into line, forced thereto by the necessity of eliminating all superfluous expense. Some time ago Tasmania agreed upon a single electoral ad-

ministration with the Commonwealth. Now, South Australia has come in. Queensland has amalgamated her State saving bank system with that of the Commonwealth; Western Australia is saving £35,000 a year by allowing the Commonwealth to collect her land and income taxes.

All the States have agreed to leave the Commonwealth in single control of immigration propaganda transport, and of aviation, while there is a likelihood that a Commonwealth Health Department will shortly supersede the various State departments, and thus effect further economies. All this, however, is but the beginning of the movement towards a more sane and economical administration of those matters which can be managed by one government and one parliament instead of seven. Probably New South Wales would follow the example of Western Australia regarding taxation, were it not that that State flatly differs from the policy of the Commonwealth regarding collection of income tax. The latter believes in collecting the tax from

the individual who receives dividends, while the former taxes dividends at their source.

Thus in the State there are 3,000 companies with 600,000 shareholders, and with the Commonwealth method the cost of getting at each individual shareholder is cumbersome and expensive. When the Commonwealth changes its methods it is likely that an end will come to the duplication of taxation returns, assessments and collections. In all, the land and income taxes amount to £20,000,000 a year. An Inter-State conference last year failed to reach a conclusion on the question of collection by one authority, and a Royal Commission is now taking evidence regarding the incidence of Commonwealth and State taxation. Appearances point to the early accomplishment of reform.

THE wedding took place at the Union Church, Tientsin, on January 19, of Mr. T. G. Fisher, of the "N. C. Daily Mail," and Miss R. Boanas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Boanas, of Tientsin.

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SHANGHAI NEWS

SHANGHAI'S CIVIC PROBLEMS

Need for a Broader Policy—The Duty of Ratepayers

The need of fostering a civic consciousness in vital problems affecting the well-being of the Model Settlement, was the subject of an address by Mr. A. J. Hughes, at the annual general meeting of the Civic League on Tuesday.

"There is a feeling," said Mr. Hughes, "among a large number of residents that had there been more opportunity in the past for public discussion of affairs, many of our present day problems would not be so difficult of solution as they are!"

The lecturer then reviewed some of the most pressing problems of Shanghai Municipal administration.

There was no city in the world where traffic problems were so complex and acute. Throughout the Settlement there was scarcely a road wide enough to meet traffic requirements. These requirements would rapidly become greater. Less than a year ago the engineering-chief of the Huangpu Conservancy Board stated that "the importance of China's trade and Shanghai's position entitle this town to become a first-class world port. With the development of Shanghai as such, the transport problem would grow even more difficult to solve."

FRANK DISCUSSION WANTED.

At present circumstances seemed to justify the belief that all was not being done that might be done to relieve the congestion and provide for future requirements. Surely it would be a wise policy on the part of the Council to take the ratepayers and residents into their confidence in this connexion, and permit the chief of the Department of Public Works to meet the ratepayers and discuss the vital question with them.

"Another very important matter," said Mr. Hughes "is that of public utility monopolies, such as the Tramway service, Telephones etc. Just before the trams began to run in Shanghai we had a visit from one of the best known authorities on electric traction in the person of Sir Clifton Robinson. He expressed the opinion to me that Shanghai was no place for electric trams on rails, owing to the narrow and congested streets, and stated that unless the streets could be widened the time might come when the rails would have to be removed and motor buses substituted. In other respects the service is open to severe criticism and is far satisfactory. Although some allowance must be made for local conditions affecting its operation, there is a very general belief that a more efficient service could be provided."

"The ratepayers have paid dearly for their experience in granting these public utility monopolies without sufficiently protecting the interests of the community, and undoubtedly public interest in future will be much keener and more critical when the time comes for granting an extension of them."

PROFITEERING IN HOUSES.

Another problem, now the subject of much comment and arising out of the rapid growth of Shanghai's population, is that of house accommodation. There is a serious shortage and profiteering is rampant. Only yesterday a tenant of a down town flat informed me that he had sold his lease to his landlord for Tls. 4,000 which means of course that the next tenants will have to make the bargain profitable.

"The question of Settlement Extension is hardly worth a reference as the doors of opportunity that have been opened occasionally are shut bolted and barred, and cannot now be reopened—except possibly to admit of a compromise on the basis of granting to the Chinese a share in the Government of the enlarged municipality. No more flagrant example can be adduced of the "it will serve our time" policy which seems to have been characteristic of our city fathers in the past. This matter and the appalling traffic conditions fully justify the demand for wider opportunities of expressing public opinion on civic affairs."

MATTERS FOR ATTENTION.

There are many other matters to which public attention should be directed affecting the welfare of all residents foreign and Chinese in this Settlement such as labour problems, provision for an international park to which the Chinese can be admitted, the Registration of Companies, provision for indigent foreigners, etc.

The Municipal Council's policy of discouraging criticism and public discussion of civic affairs must be abandoned. Well intentioned criticism and discussion and a keener interest in such affairs will be of benefit to the administration and the community. The absence of it tends to an oligarchic form of government, not sufficiently responsive to rapidly changing conditions and the needs of the people, a tendency to perpetuate old and effete ideas, extravagance and resentment of criticism to which in Shanghai the administration has for so long a time been generally unaccustomed.

The secretary having read the notices convening the meeting, and the report for 1920 being adopted, the chairman, Mr. C. Holliday, proposed the re-election of the committee *en bloc*.

Mr. Bruce Lockhart suggested that those members of the committee who had not taken sufficient interest in the annual meeting to be present, should be struck off the list.

Some discussion followed this motion, and it was eventually

ADMIRAL GLEAVES RETIRING

30 Years in the U. S. Navy

Admiral Albert Gleaves, Commander-in-chief of the U. S. naval forces on the Asiatic station, will return to America on the R. M. S. Empress of Russia and will pass through Shanghai, where he will probably come ashore to say goodbye to his many friends in the city. Admiral Gleaves retires on account of age on January 1, 1922, and he will at that time, have spent 30 years in the Naval Service. These years cover a long career of special duties performed always with same high degree of excellence. He was one of the first of the commanding officers of the U. S. Dreadnoughts. He was assigned command of the North Dakota, one of the first of a new type of first-line ships. After having served with distinction in the Spanish-American war, he commanded the President's yacht, the Mayflower, and later he developed the Naval Torpedo Station at Newport, Rhode Island, to a high state of efficiency. A torpedo factory as well as the experimental station is located there.

During the world war in connexion with the transportation of the American army to Europe Admiral Gleaves had command of the cruiser and transport force and it is noteworthy that not a single ship was late in sailing with troops. The Transport Force was to a very great extent made up from the Reserves with a nucleus of Regulars. Admiral Gleaves showed his loyalty by not asking for better trained men and it was this very trait of being able to produce results under difficult conditions that caused his selection for the most important duties.

Admiral Gleaves has received practically every medal that has been awarded by the United States Government as well as many foreign decorations.

Admiral Gleaves is being relieved by Admiral Joseph Strauss, who was Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance during the war and afterwards commanded the Mine Force in the North Sea. A recent cable from Manila states that he will arrive on an army transport about February 1, together with Captain Crose, who will take command of the 16th Naval District and the Naval Stations at Cavite and Olongapo, P. I., as relief of Rear-Admiral K. C. B. Morgan, who is returning home on the P. M. S. Venezuela.

In further response to inquiries from the North, the local Chinese authorities have informed Peking that, after a brief stay in the French Concession, Little Hsu and Wang I-tang left for Tsingtao "in company with the ex-Tuchun of a certain province."

agreed to adjourn the meeting until again convened by the committee.

RENTS AND HOUSES IN SHANGHAI

Little Relief in Sight Owing to High Cost of Building Materials

In view of the general anticipation that the next few months will see a reduction in the number of business houses in Shanghai—a natural result of the trade depression—hopes have been current that relief would thereupon be forthcoming to the remainder of the residents in the direction of an adequate supply of houses and probably a reduction in rents. Inquiry made in well-informed quarters does not bear out this view, and even assuming that houses are not altogether so difficult to obtain, it is extremely unlikely that any reduction in rents will occur.

As regards the number of houses available it is pointed out that applications for them are so numerous at the present time, that even if a number of businesses close up and their staffs leave the place, the landlord will still have no difficulty in securing tenants. The demand on the part of wealthy Chinese for houses continues, and as showing the present trend of events it may be pointed out that within the past few days the sale of a high-priced house was effected without the slightest difficulty. A considerable amount of house-building is at present proceeding, but this will not provide any surplus, and considering prices of building materials, it is more than doubtful whether the present rate of building will be maintained.

THE ADVANCE IN PRICES.

The reason for this view is the remarkable advance which has taken place within the past year in the price of local building materials. To explain this it is only necessary to consider the number of large buildings going up along the Bund and to its immediate rear. There are over half a dozen of these, and responding to the immense demand these make on locally obtained supplies, it is little wonder that prices have undergone a very great advance. Cement and sand are 100 per cent. over their cost a year ago, lime 50 per cent. and bricks from 25 to 30. The very great advance in cement is due to the number of reinforced concrete buildings which are being erected, while the extent of the other construction work accounts for the other increases. So long as these prices continue at anything like their present level the cost of new buildings is bound to be enormous, and so far as can be seen these high prices are going to have the effect of stopping enterprise where private houses are concerned.

NO RENT REDUCTION.

Compared with anything in the past the rents of these new houses are bound to be high. Moderate salaried men in the halcyon days of the past have occupied

houses whose rents were in the neighbourhood of Tls. 50 per month. With the cost of materials to-day all that is at an end. It would not be economically possible to build a Tls. 50 house to-day—unless one went outside the Settlement and put up a jerry-built structure which would be finished within a few years. The best apparently that can be hoped for in the future is a five-roomed house—counting the attic as a room—in the neighbourhood of Tls. 70.

To return to the subject of a possible fall in house rents, we have pointed out that this seems unlikely, but the opinion is expressed that if the present business depression continues there may be seen a reduction in rents of over Tls. 125. Even this is by no means certain.

DO THE DEAD DIE ?

Theosophical Society Lecture

A warning against unrestrained grief for the dead was given by Capt. G. W. Carter in a lecture on Saturday afternoon, at the Theosophical Society's room on "The Dead Have Never Died." Probably there is no subject concerning death of more vital importance than that of the right attitude of mind and emotion toward the living dead. It is commonly said that we can do nothing more for them when they have passed away from physical plane life, but a greater error could not easily be made. The connexion with us is by no means severed. Not only are the dead emotionally in touch with us but their emotions are very much keener than if they had a physical body, through which to express them. They are now living in the astral body, the matter of which is enormously more responsive to emotional vibrations.

"A joyous emotion here would be tremendously more joyous there," said Capt. Carter, "and a thing that would produce depression here would be a hundred times more depressing there. This fact should give pause to those who are inclined to think in sorrow, and with something of despair, about friends who have passed on. They are not far away in space, and our emotions affect them profoundly and instantly."

Death is merely the close of a particular cycle of experience. It is the annihilation of nothing but the physical body, in its aspect of an instrument of activity and a vehicle of the consciousness upon the physical plane. The atoms of the body, drawn together in the human form for temporary use, are, in death, released from the cohesive force of a living organism and will return whence they came.

In reality there is no such thing as death, unless it be strictly applied to the form, regarded as a temporary vehicle of consciousness, said the lecturer. As for the consciousness, there is no death, or cessation of the individual intelligence.

KEY-MONEY IN LICENSED HOUSES

Proprietors Squeezed as Result of New Closing Policy

Certain Chinese in Shanghai are very much concerned at present with what they consider to be an attempt to make undue profits out of the closing order which is to apply to the licensed houses. These places, it will be remembered, are to be closed within the next five years, a proportion of licences to be withdrawn by lottery each year.

The report, which we have reason to believe is well substantiated, is that the Chinese agents who collect the rents at the houses have informed the proprietors that a change has taken place in their ownership, and that the new landlord, or landlords, require the payment of "key-money" to the amount of \$100, \$200, or \$300, according to the class of house occupied. Further, the tenants have been informed that their rents will be raised, the additional rent asked for ranging from \$25 to \$40. It is estimated that the total additional payments asked for in this way reaches some \$14,000.

Not a dollar has been paid, we understand, and the Chinese are protesting that the demand is a "profiteering" attempt to take advantage of the closing order. According to the conditions of their licences, the Chinese are prevented from moving to other houses, and they are thus in the position of having to meet the additional demands or close their houses.

We are unable to say whether a change in the ownership of the premises concerned has actually taken place, but our information is that any such change would have to be notified to the police, and such notice does not appear to have been given. In these circumstances the key-money demanded may simply be a piece of "squeeze" by the rent collectors.

DEATH by opium poisoning was the verdict returned by Magistrate Loh and Mr. Hayashide at an inquest on the body of an ex-soldier named Tsiang Zra-san. The deceased was suddenly taken ill at a lodging house on January 20, and died shortly after admittance to the Shantung Road Hospital.

THE death took place at the General Hospital, Shanghai, on Saturday of Mr. Frederick Arnold Burchardi at the age of 77. Mr. Burchardi, who was a German, was one of the oldest foreign residents of China, having been in the country for 52 years. He founded the now extinct firm of Gipperich & Burchardi, and after carrying on business successfully, retired some 20 years ago. Mr. Burchardi is survived by a daughter, who is employed by the Standard Oil Co., and several relatives in Kiel.

ABOLISH THE TRENCHES!

Widely Signed Petition to Military Governor for Suppression of an Unsavoury Locality

The following petition, calling for the total and absolute suppression of 14 cafés, etc., in the locality known as the "Trenches" has been addressed to Gen. Ho Feng-lin by residents of Shanghai and Chapei:—

To H. E. General Ho Feng-Lin,
Military Governor of Shanghai,
Commissioner of Defence for
Shanghai Sungkiang and
Woosung, Kiangsu Arsenal.
January 17, 1921.

SIR,—We, the undersigned citizens of Shanghai and or residents of Chapei, irrespective of race, nationality or religion, desire to express appreciation of your recent official action in regard to dives and brothels in various parts of the city outside of the settlement limits, and especially the following, which are on North Szechuen and Yukong Roads:—

Yukong Road—10:
Boxers' Café Buffet
Palais Crystal Garden
Rialto Bar
Café De Paris
Café Venetia
Palermo
Central Café
Jew's Criterion Café
Social Café Bar
Eldorado
North Szechuen Road,—4
Shanghai Café Grill
Mascott Bar
International Bar
Golden Eagle Bar

We heartily endorse your action and respectfully and particularly urge that these 14 dives be all permanently closed. All of them we are informed, are owned by foreigners and licensed by the Chapei Constabulary. They are on or near the North Szechuen Road, the only north and south thoroughfare for a large proportion of Shanghai residents. A great number of decent people daily pass these places. Of these a large proportion are school children, for the section of Shanghai served by the North Szechuen Road has within it many schools of several nationalities, including British, American, Japanese and, particularly, many Chinese schools. It is estimated that the Chinese students outnumber the others by something like six to one.

These saloons are subversive of morality and stimulants to evil living, and act as a powerful means of education on this large body of growing youth. It is imperatively necessary that this educational section of Shanghai be permanently protected from these indecent and evil influences. In addition to promiscuous dancing, drinking and carousing during all hours of the day and night at these dens, intoxicated men coming therefrom frequently insult respectable women and girls passing by and from respectable nearby shops. The patrons of the Isis Theatre also of all na-

tionalities, and ages, have openly displayed before their eyes, at all times, vice in its most seductive and degrading aspect. It is well known that fracas are frequent and that injuries have been attempted and given, and life taken as a result of the influence of these dives.

In addition to being centres of indecency, these 14 saloons incite to general lawlessness, for if reckless foreigners may thus break the peace with impunity, the Chinese population has a constant and dangerous example which incites them to do likewise.

These places are not generally nor exclusively frequented by Shanghai residents but are "man-traps," in the main, for transient visitors to Shanghai, such as sailors or seafaring men particularly. Prostitutes at times openly ply their trade on these public roads. In short, these dens continually disturb the peace and are a constant menace to good government, morals and life.

Furthermore, we would point out that the good names of the officials responsible for permitting these dives to open, is also affected. The American and British authorities are dealing severely with cases of intoxication, disorderly conduct and breaches of the peace committed by their nationals, and for the public welfare it is necessary their efforts be seconded by the Chinese officials, not by spasmodically enforced regulations as to the hour of closing at night, but heartily supported in the only vigorous manner that could effectively meet the situation—
inexorable abolition.

From every viewpoint, therefore, we again urge that the steps you have taken be made permanently effective.

Very respectfully,

Frank Rawlinson, Chairman Shanghai Moral Welfare Committee.
Dr. Hua Chuen Mei,
Attorney and Counselor-at-Law.
Willard W. Bartlett,
Principal American School.
Dr. Fong F. Sec., Editor of
The Commercial Press.
W. W. Lockwood,
Young Men's Christian Association.
E. C. Lobenstine, Secretary
Chinese Continuation Com.
Edith G. Johnstott,
Secretary, Y.W.C.A.
Dr. D. MacGillivray, Gen. Sec.
Christian Literature Society.
J. C. Clark,
Moral Welfare Committee.
F. R. Sites, Residence Engineer,
U. S. Steel Products Co.
Dr. F. J. White, President,
Shanghai College.
Dr. John Darroch
General Agent R.T.S., London.
Jesse M. Rogers,
Prin. Ming Jang Boys' School.
Eugene E. Steele
A. P. Parker, Editor
Chinese Christian Advocate.
A. O. Ben,
Cantonese Church School.
Dr. Walter G. Hiltner
J. E. Jackson, Baptist Mission.
Wong Koh-shan,
Yangtze Engineering Works.
Dr. Thomas S. Dunn, M.D.
G. H. Cole, Y.M.C.A. Secretary.
M. A. Kees, Y.M.C.A. Secretary.
Tosabayashi, Head Master,
Japanese Public School.

CHINESE OPINION ON THE TRENCHES

Strong Petition by Leading Chinese to Military Governor

The Chinese Press continues to give attention to the Trenches and Wednesday's reports are to the effect that the bar-keepers are not complying with the regulation as to the sale of liquor after midnight, and are endeavouring to resist the Chinese Police in the execution of their duty. The Governor has been in consultation with the Senior Consul on the matter, and the people concerned are to be informed that they will be dealt with according to Chinese law if the regulations are not complied with.

A petition on the subject, with many signatures headed by those of Mr. C. C. Nieh, chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Chu Pao-san, has been addressed to the Military Governor. The petitioners speak of foreigners who "keep bars and secretly allow prostitution," and of the "drunkenness, gambling and fighting" carried on in the neighbourhood. "In some cases," they go on to say, "persons were killed or injured through jealousy over women."

"It is fortunate that you are intelligent," the petitioners say, in allusion to measures recently announced, which measures they request shall be strictly enforced. The petition proceeds:—

"We understand that the proprietors of the bars are all undesirables and that they ignore official orders. They are better for the time being, but they may conspire with local vagabonds to carry on their business secretly as before. If trouble occurs, foreign intervention may arise because the place in question adjoins the Settlement. Thus the existence of these bars is dangerous not only to custom but to the rights of the country.

The petitioners discreetly add that any further disturbance would tarnish the General's reputation for maintaining excellent order in his district. They ask that the bars, 14 in number, be permanently suppressed.

MR. N. E. Lurton, U. S. Marshall, returned on Monday from America where he has been on leave for six months. He will relieve Mr. Neville Craig, who has been acting during his absence.

THE Military Governor of Shanghai is reported to have received warning that a Chinese Bolshevik agent has set up his headquarters in Shanghai, with the object of stirring up trouble amongst factory workers. The directors of factories in Nantao, where some 10,000 men are employed, are being asked to warn their men against listening to "designing and evil propaganda."

INSTALLATION OF RABBI HIRSCH

Stirring Call by New Rabbi to the Community: Present Difficulties and Dangers

The installation of Rabbi Hirsch and the consecration of the new synagogue "Ohel-Rachel" took place on Sunday afternoon.

A singularly brilliant sermon was preached by the Rabbi, in the course of which he said:

Once more I consecrate myself to the service of Judaism and take under my charge the spiritual welfare of a Jewish community. Too well do I realize the sacredness of this trust, the responsibility it involves, and the hardships and difficulties it provokes. In a materialistic age like ours none is more easily misunderstood, none more readily misjudged than he who acclaims the permanence and potency of the spirit. "Who is accounted more blind than the servant of the Lord? Who is accounted more deaf than he who hears His message?" And can it be that the usual problems which confront the spiritual leader will be less intense in a community like this which is so divided in outlook, so multiform, and complex in character? Humbly do I turn to the source of all wisdom to direct and lead me in this new field to which I was called from across the seas.

REVOLUTIONARY NOTIONS.

There was a time when a Rabbi had no declaration of policy to make to his community. His scope was recognized and his field of action well understood. He was the repository of Jewish knowledge, the standard bearer of tradition, the guardian and exponent of Israel's Law. The community knew what to expect from its Rabbi, and the Rabbi knew what he owed to his community. Times have changed. Religion is now in a state of flux, and congregation and Rabbi alike often lose their bearings. Religious authority, that indomitable force which gave to Jews a solidarity that defied the wear and tear of time and the master strokes of human intolerance is giving way to a revolutionary notion of spiritual independence which destroys the true freedom of the soul. Every theologian has new revelations to make and each Rabbi is a self-appointed law giver. Our ancient faith is being shorn of its traditional beauties and deprived of its inborn vigour. Time honoured customs that strengthened and sweetened the life of the Jew are replaced by innovations whose only recommendation is their novelty, while our suffering of the past and our hope for the future are reduced to a mere ethnological definition. Let me say at the outset that I have no new Judaism to teach, no new revelations to make, no new doctrines to promulgate. For me there is but one Judaism, that which was tested by time and hallowed by tradition,

the Judaism that saturated the life of the Jew with spirituality, that gave him enduring courage and invincible faith.

STILL MISUNDERSTOOD.

We suffer much from ignorance both within and without the community. Although men have progressed and learnt much, the Jews are still the great misunderstood of the world. Continually we are called upon to undergo the tormenting experience of seeing ourselves misjudged, misrepresented, and our best motives distorted and mistranslated. But time and endurance have hardened us against this incorrigible error of humanity. We know that a time will come when right will triumph over wrong and truth over falsehood. And then all will recognize that the accusations which men levelled at us from time to time were the reflexion of their own inhumanity, and will cast the undying prejudice against the Jew out of their heart as something impure and unholy, as something that besmirched the annals of mankind with hardness, with injustice, with a denial of what is the recognized principle of every civilized religion—the brotherhood of man.

Far more serious is the danger that arises from a growing ignorance within the community. There is real cause for alarm when the descendants of a great people who revealed religion and developed the greatest religious literature in existence become estranged from the language and writings which are held sacred by all the world and lose touch with Jewish life and Jewish feeling. There is real cause for alarm when many of our young are so unfamiliar with Jewish thought and Jewish achievement that they consider their Judaism a burden instead of cherishing it as a pride and a privilege. I remind you to-day of the Jews of Kaifeng-fu, not only to awaken in you pity and desire to help them. They should be held as an example and a warning. For every Jewish community that cuts the Law of Moses out of its life and assimilates too closely to its environment will, sooner or later, die a spiritual death.

GENEROSITY AND LIBERALITY NEEDED.

The difficulties we have to encounter in this remote part of the world are of such magnitude that unless our efforts are proportionate we shall achieve little. We shall need much generosity of heart. We shall need a flowing, unstinted liberality. And we shall need something of that religious enthusiasm which goes like a sacred contagion from one to another. Only through united efforts and willing co-operation can we hope to surmount the many obstacles that lie in our way and crown our work with success.

When I work among you, let me feel that I work among people who are united with me in a desire to uphold the banner of Judaism, to maintain on a high level the dignity of our community, and to rear a generation of erect and stable

THE PROFESSOR AMONG THE BOLSHEVISTS

A Fantastic Chinese Story

According to the Chinese Press, a certain professor (who shall be nameless), formerly of Peking University, has returned from extensive travels and is now engaged in Bolshevik propaganda among his countrymen. As the agent of a Russian organization, he is engaged in superintending the circulation of pamphlets and circulars advocating Communism. In Shanghai, his particular pitch is said to be in the neighbourhood of Ferry Road, where it is hoped to enrol a number of members from among the factory workers. Operations are also being conducted among the employees of the Shanghai-Nanking, the Tientsin-Pukow, and the Peking-Hankow Railways, and the reporter learns that 300,000 men have been induced to join the movement.

Meanwhile, the professor is said to have journeyed to Canton for the purpose of enlisting the sympathy of Sun Yat-sen. Incidentally, he will endeavour to obtain "a large sum" for circulation among the workers during the holiday.

Jews, men in whom the sparkle of innocence will not be dimmed, and the laughter of youth not be made sad by vice and corruption, men who have an abundance of self-respect and moral courage, who can battle for the right and honour of their people, and not be afraid to stand in a minority when in the right.

THE VOICE OF THE PAST.

What sacrifice is too great for such an end? What work is too hard for such a reward? What Jew is so weak at heart, so poor in blood, so faint in spirit, as to refuse his co-operation for such a purpose? From behind our fathers beckon us not to be slack at such a time, not to be idle when so many Jewish communities have been wasted, so many seats of learning destroyed, so many centres of piety made void and desolate. They bid us remember their zeal, their devotion, their love for ideals, how they were courageous and self-sacrificing, how they suffered, and struggled, and died, that we to-day might live?

Oh! listen to this voice reverberating from across the ages and bury its sacred sound within the soul. It compels earnestness and sincerity. It inspires strength and courage, and perseverance. It kindles enthusiasm, and begets loyalty to the great heritage for which we bore so much, for which we have still to sacrifice much, and for which we shall continue to sacrifice till the dawn of the great era foretold by the prophets becomes visible, and its growing light fills the world.

THE ANCHISES INSPECTED

Fine New Vessel to Ensure Travel de Luxe to the Far East

To meet the ever increasing demand for passages to the Far East, the Blue Funnel line steamer *Anchises* has been added to the number of regular passenger carrying ships plying between Europe and the Orient.

The vessel, which arrived here on the 14th instant, was previously engaged in the Australasian service—a service which does not as a rule cater for the creature comforts enjoyed by trans-Atlantic passengers. Single or double berth State rooms on the former route, for instance, are rather the exception than the rule. Thanks, however, to the enterprise of the owners, Messrs. Alfred Holt & Co., the *Anchises* has been transformed into a luxury ship. It is noteworthy that the flat rate of £104 per head for the voyage to Europe will be maintained by the company, whatever increases may be made by other steamship lines.

"We intend to cater only for business men with their families, and although the accommodation on the *Anchises* is up-to-date in every respect, we are not attempting to pander to globe-trotters or people who require a 'floating palace'," said an officer of the company on Wednesday to a "North-China Daily News" representative.

The ship may not be classed as a super-Cunarder, but nevertheless, since she has been re-fitted, it would be difficult to find a more comfortable passenger boat in the China seas.

ALL MODERN IMPROVEMENTS.

Every modern improvement has been introduced, including what is a new departure in the arrangement of cabin space. There are no "blind" cabins, that is to say, those which are only lighted by electricity, as is often the case on many of the liners afloat. Special facilities have been provided for children in the shape of a large and airy nursery, on the walls of which are frescoes depicting various incidents from fairy stories. A whole promenade deck is also reserved as a children's playground. Opportunities for deck sports are afforded for their elders, on the unusually spacious upper deck. Here there are none of the usual stanchions and winch pipes to tumble over during a "slight sea."

In addition to the commodious and tastefully decorated smoking room, there are two lounges. A well stocked library and a swimming bath have been newly added.

One feature of the furnishing of the saloons is the use which has been made of patent rubber flooring. Being slightly glazed, it has the appearance of marble, but none of its slipperiness. Save in a typhoon, no one can fall over. Chairs and tables, which are as a rule permanently fixed to the deck,

can be moved about at will. Every ocean traveller knows how awkward it is in rough weather to get into his place at table when the revolving chair is screwed down, and the springs are tight.

A FORERUNNER OF OTHERS.

The *Anchises* will shortly be the parent ship of a new line of steamers from Home to India, Hongkong and Shanghai. More Blue Funnel boats are to be commissioned for this route, and before long it is hoped that a regular monthly service will be maintained between Liverpool and these parts.

Every berth has been booked up for to-day's sailing. To celebrate the inauguration of what will be at the end of the year a new passenger line to the East, a reception was held on board on Thursday afternoon, to which over 400 guests were invited.

C. M. S. ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOL

Annual Prize Distribution

The annual prize distribution of the above school was held on Wednesday afternoon at 3 p.m. The chair was taken by Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, supported by the Very Rev. Dean Symons, the Rev. T. Gaunt, M.A., Dr. J. C. P. Beatty, and Mr. A. J. Bailey.

A report upon the school work having been presented by the Vice-Principal, the chairman, in a brief address ably outlined the relation between teacher and student, in the course of which the speaker pointed out that the teacher the world over rarely received an adequate material reward for his services, and was compelled in some measure to seek that reward in the respect and affection of his pupils.

Following a selection from Jerome K. Jerome, well rendered by Wang Chiao-sheng, the Dean gave an address in Chinese which was heard with keen interest and appreciation by the students.

After a further item by the students the prizes, a large selection of suitable books, were distributed by the Rev. T. Gaunt. Special prizes were presented by Mr. H. P. Wilkinson and Mr. H. Middleton.

It was found impossible to invite parents or friends on account of the lack of accommodation consequent upon the increase in the numbers of the students.

The principal, Mr. W. A. H. Moule and Mrs. Moule, are expected to return from furlough early in March.

THE Coast Inspector informs us that the Chinese Steamer *Shen Chau*, 467 tons, built of steel in Japan, founded at sea at 3.30 p.m. on January 13 in Lat. 33° 50' N., Long. 121° 26' E. At the time she was on a voyage from Kwanhokow (Haichow) to the Yangtze River with a cargo of salt. The Japanese captain, officers and a Chinese crew were rescued by a junk that was in the vicinity.

CHINESE LADY PAINTER

Interesting Afternoon with American Woman's Club

The Literary Department of the American Woman's Club was privileged to view the wonderful collection of paintings of Madame Wu Hsing-fên at her home on Avenue Joffre on Saturday afternoon, January 22. Madame Wu is over 60 years old and her entire life has been spent in painting, so that now she has a large collection of her work besides some very fine old paintings that have been gathered for generations, some of which date back as far as the Sung dynasty. She is the daughter of Wu Tze-chia, who was considered the best life painter of his day, but his work has been surpassed by that of his daughter. In 1880, she painted a long scroll of 100 flowers which is now famous and which has inspired many poems of appreciation. Madame Wu loved scenery and has lived for a great part of her life in the mountains, where she has done some of her best work. In 1910, some of her paintings were sent to be exhibited at Rome and were bought by the Queen of Italy. It will also be remembered that Madame Wu presented a large number of her paintings to the American Woman's Club about two years ago to sell for War Relief work and that, at auction, they realized \$1,300.

SOME SPECIAL FEATURES.

Some of the paintings which especially interested the women of the Literary Department were those which depicted some typical feature of each of the 18 provinces, such as the Hangchow bore for Chékiang and Mount Tai Shan for Shantung. These showed exceptionally good composition and detail of workmanship. The scrolls called "Houses in a Fairy Mountain" and "Village Life in China" were especially noteworthy, as was also the beautiful reproduction of the "Portrait of Lady Kuan," a famous lady who lived in the Mongol dynasty. There were studies of snow scenes, a long picture called "A Bamboo Study," floral pieces of peonies and lotus blossoms, paintings of birds, all of which showed the artist's versatility.

THE Union of Returned Labourers (C.L.C.) has sent a delegate to Peking to demand that investigations be made as to the true condition of the returned coolies, some of whom are said to be starving, without clothing and penniless.

THE Shanghai Restaurant Keepers' Association has issued a notice that, owing to the high cost of food, the price of first class dinners will be increased by \$1, and that of second class by 50 cents. It will be interesting to see what reaction this increase, affecting as it does, Chinese, will have on the luckless foreigner.

SHANGHAI JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

Important Chinese Enterprise

A new addition to Shanghai journalism made its appearance on Monday, in the form of the "Shanghai Journal of Commerce," a 24-page newspaper printed in Chinese. The new paper will appear daily, with a special edition on Sunday.

The first edition of the newcomer ran to upwards of 35,000 copies, all of which were eagerly snapped up by newsboys and readily disposed of.

As its name implies, the new journal will specialize in financial, commercial and industrial subjects, although there will be sections reserved for news, both local and telegraphic. Reuter's despatches will be translated daily, as will letters and cables from correspondents in Europe and America. Mr. Hsia Chi-feng is the representative of the paper in Paris.

The secretaries of more than 600 chambers of commerce in Chinese cities have agreed to send reports to the "Journal of Commerce," so that Chinese merchants and business men may be enabled at all times to keep their fingers on the pulse of commercial and industrial developments throughout China. Dr. F. C. Tong, managing director, has engaged a large and well trained staff, many of his associates being experts in various fields. It is Dr. Tong's aim to have articles of a strictly authoritative nature, so that the new journal may acquire the prestige that goes with the very best that is to be had in business journalism.

Several hundred handsome scrolls and messages were sent to the office of the new publication, 95 Foochow Road, yesterday, by Chinese merchants, business and professional men and citizens generally as tokens of esteem and good wishes for the new paper. Among them were:—

General Chamber of Commerce of Shanghai; Chinese Student's Union; General Chamber of Commerce in Chengtu; General Chamber of Commerce in Chungking; Canton Guild; Canton Club; Ningpo Guild; Shaoshing Guild; Chin Woo Athletic Association; Sincere Company; Chartered Stock and Produce Exchange; Shun Pao; Commercial Press; Chung Hwa Shoe Company; Yeh Kung-cho; Fu Shia-an; Dr. Wang Chien-wei; Wen Chung-ya; H. Y. Moh; C. C. Nieh; Yu Yah-ching; Dr. C. T. Wang.

The journal is of regulation newspaper size, printed on good paper, and presents a very fine physical appearance.

BARON Aliotti, the new Italian Ambassador to Japan, is reported to have arrived in Tokio last Saturday night.

GENERAL Ho Feng-ling has ordered an investigation into the number of houses of ill-fame, as it is reported that these places continue business after midnight, contrary to orders.

THE BOGUS INSPECTOR

A Warning to Householders

Elsewhere we report the case of a teacher who was sent to prison for 12 months for having defrauded various Chinese on the pretence of being a representative of the S. M. C. Revenue Department. Foreign residents are warned that a much more ingenious gentleman is making a round of the Settlement as an alleged representative of the Electricity Department. The man in question is a Chinese wearing dark spectacles, and in each case his method of work has been the same.

A few days ago he gained admittance to a house in the Bubbling Well district on the pretence of being an inspector from the Electricity Department. Upon being conducted upstairs, he asked the servant to go down again and turn on the meter switch. This was done, and when the servant returned, the "inspector," who was industriously making notes in a pocket book, informed him that the lights were working very satisfactorily, and so left the house. Some hours later, it was discovered that jewellery to the value of \$500 was missing from a bedroom.

A BAD SHOT.

In another case reported to the police, the same operator imposed upon a foreign lady to a certain extent, but discreetly retired from the house when, having posed as an electricity man, it was pointed out to him that he was carefully inspecting the gas meter.

This is not the first time that work of this kind has been reported, but the thieves still seem able to carry on an impudent fraud. Householders are requested to warn their servants against visitors of this character. Genuine inspectors all carry an identification card. If this cannot be produced, the visitor should be detained or otherwise induced to remain until the police have been communicated with.

THE PRICE OF LAND AT LUNGHUA

Big Rise in Recent Sales

The Chinese press reports considerable activity in the purchase of land in the Lunghua district, with consequent increase in price. The value of land there has gone up to four or five hundred dollars per mow.

It is noted that many of the sales and transfers have been effected in foreign names in behalf of Chinese, and this fact has been brought to the notice of the Military Governor. General Ho is said to have issued an order to the City Magistrate, instructing him to warn the headman and tipaos of the district to prevent the sale of land to foreigners.

It is stated that the purchases are being made with a view to conversion of the land into factory sites.

NIGHT THIEVES IN SAN FRANCISCO

Shanghai Visitors Robbed

Two Shanghai residents who arrived by the C. M. S. Nile on Tuesday bring with them a rather unpleasant memory of their brief stay in San Francisco en route. The parties concerned, a gentleman and his wife, were returning to their hotel at about 11.30 p.m. when they were held up in Larkin Street, by two footpads. One was well dressed, and a "sweater" worn by the other man proclaimed his affinity with the bruiser type of street lounge. They demanded money, and, as both were powerfully built and possibly armed, the demand was acceded to without ceremony, the lady handing over a hand-bag containing a considerable sum of money. The matter was not reported to the police, in view of the delay which would have been caused by the visitors remaining to prosecute, in the possibly unlikely event of the thieves being caught.

A similar experience befell one of the crew of the Nile. He also was "held up" while returning to ship, and, considering discretion the better part of argument, handed over the dollars.

COLLISION ON THE RIVER

A collision, which caused considerable damage, but fortunately, so far as can be ascertained, no loss of life, occurred on the Huangpu River about 7.30 a.m. on Wednesday in the vicinity of the Kailan Mining Administration's Wharf, on the Pootung side.

It appears that about 7 a.m. the I.-C.S. Yusang, outward bound for Yangtze River ports, left her berth at the Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf and proceeded down river on the ebb tide, meeting with drifting banks of fog which made navigation very difficult. Apparently getting slightly out of her intended course, she came into collision with the K.M.A.S. Patriot (chartered), which was moored in the stream off the Kailan Wharf, and by the impact both vessels suffered somewhat serious damage about the bows, several plates being buckled, while in the meantime a number of Chinese small craft suffered severe damage.

As soon as possible after the accident the Yusang dropped anchor off the Asiatic Petroleum Company's Wharf. Both steamers will have to undergo repairs before leaving Shanghai, and the Yusang will probably go into dock.

M. Lemoine, director of the Garage Central of Tientsin, has made the trip from Tientsin to Peking, in a French Renault truck in 4 hr. 48 min. The car used only six gallons of gasoline for the 90 miles. This is the first time that the trip to Peking has been made in a truck.

AN INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE GRAY

One of the World's Greatest
Billiard Players Now
in Shanghai

When George Gray is not working—that is, playing billiards—he sometimes sits in the Astor House lobby and watches Shanghai go by and, if you are lucky, he may consent to tell you a few things about how he plays the game, how he happened to start playing it, and under what conditions he plays best.

Mr. Gray is too famous to need to be introduced as one of the world's champion billiard players. He has played with all the biggest players and beaten them and is ready to play anybody. He holds the world's record break of 2196 unfinished now which he made in England while he was there for two years between 1910 and 1912 and, also, within the same time, made 37 other breaks over 1,000. George Gray will be well-known to Shanghai through the sporting columns during his stay here, which will be several weeks, before he goes on into fresh unconquered fields, so now we were only interested in knowing the more human and generally interesting things about his life.

ONLY PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.

George Gray denies having been "born" a billiardist. He says that skill comes through days and weeks and years of practice just as it does to pianists or singers. The fact that his father was a billiardist before him did not mean that the balls found their way into the pockets for Gray Junior without infinite pains. Neither did he start out in life with the aim of being a professional billiard player, but rather, he set himself to the task of becoming an electrical engineer. It was while he was at school studying for that, and going in for athletics in his spare hours, that he fell one day while jumping on the sports grounds at Brisbane, Australia, and sustained a bad compound fracture of the left arm. It was put into splints and plaster of Paris and, since it was necessary for him to be very quiet and have a good rest, he went with his father who had a saloon and billiard place in Brisbane. After several months there, he began pushing the balls about with one arm and without a bridge and after his arm was better, he began to improve and pretty soon, he was doing so well that his father asked him if he did not want to go in for the game seriously and take it up as a profession.

FIRST PUBLIC APPEARANCE.

"It wasn't easy," said Mr. Gray, "and I knew what it meant. Hours of practice, sometimes as much as 16 hours a day, and seldom less than 10. After 18

months of work like that, I made my first public appearance." It was after this that as a 13 year old boy, George Gray toured the country with his father and made a world's record break of 513 off the red ball, which, of course, caused a sensation in billiard circles, and made himself known as a player to be reckoned with. He played against Melbourne Inman about this time when the latter was 30 years old. Inman gave him 2,000 points in 4,500 and Gray surprisingly beat him by 600 points.

THOUGHTS FOR AMATEURS.

Mr. Gray uses ivory balls wherever he can. He says they are the easiest to play with, but can only be used where an even climate is found because ivory loses its "sphere" under extreme conditions. He excels in the losing hazard stroke in which he brings back the red to position with remarkable and unerring accuracy, so that the ball seems spirited or magnetized into position. He has written a book on "Red Ball Play" and is about to publish another billiard book, also. Mr. Gray is especially interested in work for amateurs having opened a school in Melbourne, Australia, which was even too successful that it involved too much work and long hours.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray have toured practically all over the world except through China and Japan and their present trip will complete an interesting record of achievements for the billiard shark. After leaving Shanghai, they will go by way of Hankow to Peking and Tientsin, and from there to Japan.

WELL KNOWN RUSSIAN ARRESTED

Charged With Libel

A Russian named Dimitri Lukhmanoff was arrested by Det.-Sergt. Kilkenny at the Palace Hotel on Thursday, on a charge of criminal libel. The warrant for the man's arrest was issued at the request of M. Leonid Kompanion, who alleges that Lukhmanoff had publicly insulted him in the columns of "The Shanghai Life." In an article which appeared in that paper on the 23rd instant it was stated that MM. Kompanion and N. D. Fedoroff had "stolen" the str. Penza, belonging to the Russian Volunteer Fleet, and referred to M. Fedoroff as a "pirate of the twentieth century." The journal further stated that not only had M. Fedoroff sent the Penza to Cuba, but was also supplying slaves to the Caribbean Islands, with the assistance of unscrupulous Americans. It was also averred that M. Kompanion and other individuals were hoping to establish this business on a large scale.

Mr. Lukhmanoff was released on bail on his own recognizances, and will appear at the Mixed Court.

AMERICAN WOMAN'S CLUB

A Visit to a Curio Collection

On Thursday afternoon, the Literary Department of the American Woman's Club had a second opportunity to see the beautiful collection of curios in the home of Mr. Edward Ezra on Avenue Joffre. About 20 of the women were there and they were met and entertained by Miss Sopher, Mrs. Ezra's sister, as Mrs. Ezra was not well and could not appear. Tea was served to the women after which they were taken through the house to see the Chinese porcelains, green and white jade carvings, and lovely enamels. There was an especially beautiful carving in pink quartz and some of the enamels were especially interesting in that they were without metal bases. These were some modern transparent, Japanese enamels with floral designs and the fact that the usual bases were absent made them look like beautiful glass. There were also two very beautiful and very old enamel jars, copper-coloured and blue, of great value.

Miss Sopher also showed the women Mrs. Ezra's beautiful nurseries where orchids, begonias, poinsettias, and even the early sweet pea, are in bloom.

The Literary Department will meet again this afternoon for its regular meeting when Miss Gertrude Oldroyd and Mrs. F. J. White will treat the subjects of the Temples of Tai Shan and the Temples of Pootoo.

Shanghai's Harbour Needs

Peking, Jan. 27.

The Whangpoo Conservancy has decided to request the countries which are members of the Consultative Board—viz., Great Britain, America, France, Japan and the Netherlands—to nominate a consulting engineer, who is a specialist in harbour and river work, to attend a conference at Shanghai on October 15 on the question of developing the port of Shanghai.

(1) on the basis of the approaches and draught limit remaining as at present, and (2) for the probable maximum draught of Pacific ships.—Reuter.

THE Shanghai branch of the International Anti-Opium Association of China informs us that, through the efforts of the China Club of Seattle, a ruling has been obtained from the U. S. Treasury Department, by which all narcotics will in future be barred from shipment to Japan, and it is expected that, in the present session of Congress, a bill will be passed by which narcotics will be prohibited to all countries. As a result of this it is hoped that pressure will be brought to bear upon other countries so that the illicit traffic of narcotic drugs into China may be stopped.

EXOLOGY IN CHINA

Interesting Paper Read Before the Royal Asiatic Society

To understand what constitutes exogamy, that primordial custom among certain tribes which prohibits a man from marrying a woman of his own clan, is the aim of all interested in the origin of family society.

At a meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society on Thursday, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson in the course of a lecture on the question as to whether exogamy in China is founded on name-avoidance, advanced the theory that the study of the records and usages of the oldest existing, living civilization, leads towards the solution of this ethnological riddle.

"Exogamy was, and is," declared Mr. Wilkinson, "the first great commandment observed as to marriage by the Chinese race. In China one cannot marry a wife, or take a concubine, of the same family name as oneself."

"Why did the primitive man shun his hearth mate as a wife? Was it in obedience to the consciously imposed restriction of some enlightened leader of a horde, or was it in obedience to instinct—that is to say race-memory?"

Chinese family life could not be shown to have been, at any time, other than patriarchal. There was nothing to show that E-Yin, chief minister of the first four sovereigns of the Shang dynasty, was mistaken when, in B.C. 1539, in advising King T'ae-keah, he said: "The commencement is in the family and state; the consummation of the Empire." The rule of exogamy in China was shortly and clearly stated in the words of the "Summary of the Rules of Propriety,"—the first book of Li Ki. There was a strong taboo on the use of the personal name, and assuming that all surnames must have been when first used, in a sense personal names, one might have thought that the answer to the riddle of exogamy in China was to be found in the avoidance of a name common to both the intended husband and wife, and to the families of which they were members.

The exogamy of the Chinese race was a recoil from an early house mate, and a great deal more as well. It was also an avoidance of blood, enforced under the dread sanction of harm, spiritual and physical, to those who offended. An innate aversion to marriage with one with whom a person has lived from childhood—a desire to marry some one else—would account for a custom of marrying outside one's immediate kin. But it does not explain why marrying one's near kin should be held—as it was held by exogamous races—to be an offence against the spirits of one's fellow men.

It was likely that the "avoidance of blood" was the impelling motive of exogamy. The exogamy of the Chinese race did not appear to be due to a conscious reformation.

The evil consequences of a breach in the practice of exogamy—"the proper way in marriage"—were apprehended in historical times, in a form which must have antedated any reformatory movement.

Chinese exogamy evidently resulted from a fear of those very evils which leading authorities on the subject think unlikely or possible to have been contemplated or known to primitive man. That was shown by reference to the Chinese classics.

HEAVENLY JUSTICE

A Chinese Petition on Rice Smuggling

Members of the Haining Road Street Union have said some very nice things about the Municipal Council in a petition which they have drafted for presentation to the powers that be, on the subject of rice smuggling.

It may be remembered that in a case recently before the Mixed Court, in which a merchant was charged with attempting to smuggle rice away to Hongkong, the defence was raised that the Municipal Council had no power to issue the proclamation against smuggling, on which the prosecution was based, and could not enforce it without authority from a Ratepayers' Meeting and the sanction of the Consular Body.

This defence has taken the Haining Road Street Union by surprise. How can it be argued, they say in their petition, that the Municipal Council is not a legislative body? They insist that the Council's precaution against smuggling is an admirable one, and express their thanks for the kind interest thus taken in the welfare of Shanghai Chinese.

The Chinese, they say, are highly indignant at being victimized by smugglers, and "almost wish to eat their flesh." The discovery of the alleged smuggler is described as a piece of Heavenly Justice, accomplished with the aid of the Municipal Council and a foreign and a Chinese detective.

THE management of the Isis Theatre in Jukong Road have recently received anonymous letters demanding \$2,000, under dire threats. The response was not encouraging, with the result that two days ago a bomb was deposited in the building. There was no explosion, however. The bomb was found by an attendant and carefully conveyed to the police.

CAPT. McGrath, A.D.C. to the Governor of Hongkong, was recently summoned for his leaving motor car unattended in Queen's Road Central. Captain McGrath failed to appear in Court when the summons was first heard and the Magistrate (Mr. R. E. Lindsell) adjourned the case—the summons to be re-served. He failed to appear at the second hearing and was fined \$10.

CORRESPONDENCE

"LITERARY DIGEST" AND IRELAND.

To the Editor of the "NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—Our attention has been called to a letter published in your issue of November 4, accusing the "Literary Digest" of partizanship in discussing the Irish problem. Apparently the writer of the letter misapprehends our position. What we aim to do is to collect and present the public opinion of this and other countries on all sides of all important questions by examining carefully the leading newspapers and quoting them in our columns. This is done purely for our readers' information, and without any comment of our own.

We are accustomed to receive letters from both sides in every question that comes up for discussion, each accusing us of favouring the other, whether in war, politics, or religion. As a matter of fact, we favour none, but present all sides from time to time without bias or partiality, on the policy that in a free and fair field where every idea is given a chance for its life, the truth must inevitably win its way. It would be impossible for us to misrepresent or give a biased or distorted report of public opinion without immediately losing public confidence, which would be suicidal; and the fact that we have pursued our present policy with steadily growing public appreciation for over 30 years, is sufficient proof of our integrity of purpose. Of course, it may often be true that a reader will dislike our articles reporting the attitude of the press on this or that subject, especially at a time when feeling is running high, but in such cases he should blame the press and not blame us for reporting what they say.

In our treatment of Irish questions we receive letters from both Unionist and Sinn Fein readers, each declaring that we are favouring the other side. Thus one reader calls our magazine "an English propaganda organ," while the writer of the letter published in your paper says our policy "is one calculated violently and unjustly to prejudice the mass mind in America against the English Government and people." These opposite allegations, of course, cancel each other, and are the best possible testimony to the fact that we are holding the scales perfectly even.

Now to come down to facts, the best light we can afford on our strictly judicial attitude on Irish questions, as well as on all other topics, is to reveal our practice during the past year. In that period we published 27 articles on Irish subjects, some of them discussions of Irish problems and others descriptive and narrative records of things in Ireland. In these articles we quoted the strongest material we could find on both sides from both pro-Irish and pro-British sources. Among the Irish

press we quoted the Cork "Examiner," the "Cork News," and the Dublin "Freeman's Journal" on the Nationalist side, and the Belfast "Newsletter" and "Northern Whig" and the Dublin "Irish Times" on the Unionist side. Among the English press we quoted the Tory "Morning Post" and Mr. Lloyd George's organ, the London "Daily Chronicle," on the one side; and the London "Daily News" and "Manchester Guardian" on the other, besides many other English and Irish papers. If you could glance over these articles, even in the most hasty way, I am sure you would agree that we presented all sides of the question in the most thorough and fair manner possible.

We are pleased to read this letter in your paper, however, because it is a satisfaction to know that keen interest is taken in the record the "Literary Digest" keeps of world affairs. We feel sure, also, that if you refer to your file of the "Literary Digest" you will be convinced that we adhere faithfully to our policy of impartiality on all subjects.

I am, etc.,
WILLIAM SEAVER WOODS.
Editor.

New York, Dec. 4.

THE TRENCHES.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The "proclamation" issued by the Chief of Constabulary, under orders from the Military Defence Commissioner of Shanghai, relative to the closing of the notorious "Trenches," which has been posted in conspicuous places along N. Szechuen and Jukong Roads, says in substance that "if by force of circumstances they are compelled to do so, these places may remain open and do other business, but no more bars" (the underscoring is the writer's). It does not take much acuteness to realize what this "other business" will mean, for certainly these scores of women who have been imbued in vices and libertinage are not going to turn Samaritans, nor are the dozen or so unscrupulous barkeepers (for such they are in the true sense of the word) going to convert their places, some of which have been lavishly rebuilt, into hospitals or asylums for the destitute. If they are allowed to remain open and do "other business," the conclusion is obvious, and perhaps we may yet see that instead of having eradicated the evil, we have simply unwillingly and unwittingly helped to develop it. I sincerely hope, however, that my prognostication may prove to be wrong.

I am, etc.,
J. V. P.

Shanghai, Jan. 20.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—From a visit to the now solitary and practically battered up "Trenches" the other day to see how they were carrying on their obnoxious business, I gathered from the conversation of several

of the proprietors of the notorious cafés that they are doing their utmost to run their business as hitherto, failing which, they will start (to quote their own word) a "Cabaret."

"Will you be permitted to have the Russky dames sitting, drinking and dancing as before," I asked?

"Oh, yes," was the reply. "We will have, first of all, artists on the stage and we will charge a nominal entrance fee and during the intervals between the artists' turns, dancing, etc., will go merrily on as usual."

"We might also start a kind of a restaurant where meals of some sort will be served with drinks," continued one of the proprietors very calmly.

It is to be hoped, however, that our local and Chinese authorities combined will have all their guns out ready to cope with the situation, for the crisis is not yet over.

By the way, why are certain establishments in the western district permitted to run a business similar to that of the "Trenches"? A visit will elicit the fact that all the females of the "Trenches" are working there. Shall we wait until a murder case is registered for the authorities to have such places closed up?

I am, etc.,
PRO BONO PUBLICO.
Shanghai, Jan. 21.

THE ELDORADO TRAGEDY.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The writer of the leading article under above caption in today's issue seems to be on the verge of hysterics, in his references to this sad, sordid, but quite ordinary, crime.

I quote these sentences from your leader:—

"Consequently, shorn of the man's foolish acts, the tragedy constitutes as damning an indictment of the community as can possibly be imagined."

"One man is dead and another has stood in imminent peril of death by a fault of the community."

There can be no indictment of the community for this crime any more than there can be for the crime of the murder of the sing-song girl, or the shooting of a girl in a brothel some weeks ago.

To use such extravagant and intemperate language towards the community constitutes, in my opinion, "as damning an indictment of your own leader writer as can possibly be imagined" because it can be seized upon by those who are ignorant of life and conditions in these Settlements, and will give them an entirely wrong impression of affairs. In all great cities, particularly in all great seaports, there may be found vulgar and sordid excrescences such as the "Trenches" seem to be, and people who go to these places have only themselves to blame if ill befalls them. Shanghai, as a community, does not patronize these places—and, as a community, has no control over them—for I believe they are outside the Settlement boundary. No community can prevent individuals from seeking trouble

if they desire to, and in this sordid case, I think the evil is made worse by indulgence in such intemperate and hysterical language as your leading article gives evidence of to-day.

I am, etc.,

COMMON SENSE.

Shanghai, Jan. 24.

** Our correspondent is entitled to his opinion and it is idle to argue on such matters. But we disagree with the parallel he draws between the Furbush case and the others mentioned.—Ed.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—If any justification were needed for the strictures passed in your leader in Monday's issue on the turpitude of our Shanghai community on questions of moral welfare, it is to be found in the letter signed "Common Sense" in your correspondence columns this morning. Residents in the district in which the "trenches" are situated have agitated for years against their existence. We protest against having to pass groups of intoxicated sailors gathered in dark corners, each threatening the other with sticks or fisticuffs. We object to hearing, or allowing our children to hear the language these men use. We object to seeing those fine fellows who fought for us during the war degraded in the eyes of the Chinese and being wheedled and spoiled of their scanty pay by courtesans. We have protested against these things time and again and sometimes our protests have been poohpooed by men from whom we have a right to expect a different attitude. When at last a deplorable crime is committed which robs one young man of his life and another of his liberty then action is taken. As you pointed out in your leader this is the terrible price at which reform is bought. And those of us who have to pass the places referred to are not at all sure that the reform is bought yet.

Now comes your correspondent without a word to say in regret of the conditions which made such a crime possible nor a word of condemnation for the existence of dives that make the name of Shanghai a byword the world over. "Sordid excrescences" says your correspondent "exist in all great seaports" and so by implication they ought to exist here! Some of us think better of Shanghai than that and are determined that they shall not exist here if we can help it. We have faith enough in our fellow residents to believe that if the facts are known public opinion will not tolerate their existence. "People who go to those places have only themselves to blame if ill befalls them," says "Common Sense." That is very cold comfort to offer the relatives of the young man who has just lost his life. To my mind only a person with a callosity for a conscience could write like that.

I am, etc.,

J. DARROCH.

Shanghai, Jan. 26.

A CONCEPTION OF CHRIST.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—With reference to Rabbi Hirsch's letter, I have before me as I write a photo of the head of Mr. Epstein's "Risen Christ."

Father Bernard Vaughan, commenting on this work, writes:—

"Any portrait of our Lord that fails to express tenderness, dignity, calmness, and sweetness, with overwhelming majesty, in a word any so-called likeness which does not manifest a countenance in which are united an expression intensely human, yet altogether divine, must be ruthlessly set aside as sinning against the conceptions which even non-Christians, as well as Christians, have formed of the unique character of Jesus Christ."

"Who is the man who, standing in the presence of this shapeless specimen of humanity, could imagine coming forth from its brutally thick throat 'I am the Light of the World,' or 'I am the Way and the Truth and the Life' or 'I am the reward exceeding great?'"

"Someone has observed that if a hero were to come into a room we should stand up and acclaim him, and if Christ should cross the threshold we should kneel down and revere Him: but let me add, if Mr. Epstein's horror in bronze were to spring into life and appear in a room, I for one should fly from it in dread and disgust."

My own conception of Jesus Christ is that He was "Like unto his Father." He, therefore, must have been perfect and everyone must have his own idea of what perfection is like.

As we are made in His image He must at least have been as perfect as any human body we have known, either in the present age or as depicted in the statues which can be seen in any of the art galleries or museums. His perfect and wonderful mentality must have been reflected in His face, thus producing a whole which sculptors and painters have endeavoured to give to us.

There is nothing perfect in Mr. Epstein's work. Father Vaughan describes it thus:—

"I have stood in front and at the back elevation of this gross and grotesque thing, with nose turned up and feet turned in . . . I have studied the unshapely head, the receding brow, the thick lips, the uptipped nose, the uncanny eyes, the poorly built body with its ugly feet and uglier hands till I felt ready to cry out with indignation. . . ."

I admit that many of the existing representations of Christ depict Him as a pathetic figure rather than as a majestic figure but Mr. Epstein goes to the opposite extreme. The statue may possess giant-like proportions and a remarkable expression of power attributed to it by Rabbi Hirsch, but there is nothing that I can see which would induce me to follow the Christ portrayed. Neither can I imagine little children flocking to him, as we are told they did to Jesus Christ.

I am, etc.,

A. L. O. P.

Shanghai, Jan. 24.

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—I also have been looking again at a reproduction of the Epstein statue, and have considered the heated comments of Father Vaughan and their endorsement by A. L. O. P. It is evident that the good Father does not like the work and feels he is expressing the views of the man in the street. But this does not help us much in estimating a work of art. Our business is rather to try to understand the sculptor's meaning and to search for the reason of his method. I am no expert in this but one or two things seem pretty clear, and they are certainly more useful than declamation.

First, it is evident that the sculptor is working under the limitations of Byzantine religious art, which insists on the archaic in its presentation of the divine. Naturally we Westerners do not like it, seeing that we have been brought up for many generations on the naturalism which Raphael made famous, and which was due to the renaissance of pagan art. It is often alleged (e.g. Zola's "Rome") that the Roman Church is saturated with paganism, and Father Vaughan's remarks seem to lend some point to the allegation.

The Orthodox Church on the other hand has never yielded to the seduction and would not tolerate a naturalistic treatment of the Lord of its faith. This is a large controversy, but at least it may be said that few naturalistic representations of the Christ satisfy the Christian heart, and perhaps they have tended to obscure certain virile elements in the Christian faith.

But there is another important point which appears to have escaped the notice of the critics, who ask for something pleasing; the title of the work is "The Risen Christ." It is distinctly not intended to represent Jesus of Galilee; it is rather meant to embody the Spirit which made itself felt in the Acts of the Apostles, and in the History of the Church. If you study the figure from the standpoint of Christ in the Church rather than of Christ in Galilee, you begin to understand why the first impression given is one of authority and dignity. It seems to me that Mr. Epstein has endeavoured to show by the open pierced hands and the constricted figure that the Lord's authority is not exercised by force or physical activity of any kind. He represents in short "the kingdom and patience of our Lord Jesus Christ," and although I would not by any means affirm that the figure achieves Father Vaughan's standard of "an expression intensely human, yet altogether divine," I venture to say that the ideas it expresses are of more value than the beautiful but irrelevant naturalism of Raphael's "Ascension."

I am, etc.,

A. N. ROWLAND.

Shanghai, Jan. 26.

THE TRAFFIC QUESTION.

To the Editor of the
"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS."

SIR,—The address of Mr. A. J. Hughes to the Shanghai Civic League on Tuesday evening dealt at some length with traffic problems, but did not, so far as I can see, offer any practical solution of them.

I submit there is no solution, but there can be an amelioration.

The streets of Shanghai were planned to carry a slow-moving traffic, wheelbarrows, rickshas, and horse-drawn vehicles.

Within the past 10 years or so, swift motor vehicles have come upon the scene and have practically superseded horse-drawn vehicles.

Thus we have the following condition of affairs:—A huge pedestrian and man-drawn traffic, composed, in general, of units who are often selfish and usually stupid; added to which, is a large motor traffic composed, in particular, of units who are invariably selfish and seldom humane.

There are a few exceptions to both these conflicting elements, but these exceptions merely prove the rule. I suggest if motor-driven traffic was compelled to proceed at a reasonable pace, and not allowed to force all other traffic off the roads as at present, our narrow streets would not be the danger they now are.

The remedy for this is in the hands of the general public, and is as follows:—

If a strong public movement was inaugurated to deal with this unscrupulous motor traffic, by-laws could be passed making it an offence for any vehicle to be driven at more than 10 miles an hour in specified streets. The public could enforce this by consistently taking the numbers of swift-moving vehicles and reporting them to the Traffic Inspector for that official to take action. A month or two of such active co-operation on the part of the general public would make things as unpleasant for motor traffic, as the present unscrupulous methods of most drivers make things dangerously unpleasant for the public now.

"Road Hogging" is rampant in these narrow streets. There are a few honourable exceptions, but generally speaking, the owners of motor-cars, Chinese and foreign, have earned for themselves this objectionable name, because they apparently consider the roads are all theirs. Let them remember, these narrow roads were made for man and horse-drawn traffic—not for motor traffic. They are interlopers, and have not the main right of use. A strong public campaign could, I think, ameliorate some of the difficulties which beset us.

I am, etc.,

PEDESTRIAN.

Shanghai, Jan. 27.

THERE is much juvenile sickness at present in Tientsin, everything in the shape of children's complaints from chicken-pox to scarlet fever being present.

COMPANY MEETING

KOTA BAHROE RUBBER ESTATE, LD.

Extraordinary General Meeting

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders in the Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates, Ltd., was held at the offices of the secretaries, No. 2 Kiukiang Road, on Monday, Mr. T. E. Trueman presiding.

Notice of the meeting having been read, the Chairman said:—

At the extraordinary general meeting of the company held on January 7, 1921, the following resolutions were proposed by myself, seconded by Mr. McMurray, and carried unanimously:—

"That it is desirable to reconstruct the Company, and accordingly the company be wound up voluntarily and that John Vincent Champneys Davis is hereby appointed liquidator for the purpose of such winding up."

"That the said liquidator is hereby authorized to consent to the registration of a new company, to be named 'The Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Limited,' with a Memorandum and Articles of Association which have already been prepared with approval of the directors of this company."

"That the draft agreement submitted to this meeting and expressed to be made between this company and its liquidator of the one part, and the Kota Bahroe Rubber Estates (1921), Limited, of the other part, is hereby approved, and that the said Liquidator is hereby authorized pursuant to Section 185 of the Companies Ordinance of Hongkong, 1911, to enter into an agreement with such new company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft, and to carry the same into effect with such modifications as he thinks expedient."

The foregoing resolutions were again put to the shareholders, and confirmed. This concluded the business of the meeting.

SHANGHAI LOAN & INVESTMENT CO.

Depreciation in Share Holdings

The second annual general meeting of the Shanghai Loan & Investment Co., Ltd., was held on Thursday afternoon at the offices of the General Agents, No. 1 The Bund, Mr. R. S. F. McBain presiding.

In the course of his speech the Chairman said:—

The result of the year's working shows a surplus on profit and loss account of Tls. 157,644.74, and this, your Directors recommend, should be dealt with as follows: placing to a general reserve Tls. 75,000, and carrying forward the balance of Tls. 82,644.74, and they trust that

you will approve of this manner of dealing with this surplus.

If it were not for the general financial depression all round, I think that we might have looked upon the surplus of profit and loss account as quite satisfactory. The details of the returns from investments and debentures you will see in the report.

NO DIVIDEND RECOMMENDED.

Although this company has been in existence only for a very short time, I should like to review briefly the causes which led to its formation. You will remember that at the annual general meeting of the Langkat Company three years ago, resolutions were brought forward by the Directors with a view to winding up the loan and investment account of that company and returning to the shareholders Tls. 5, or perhaps more, from the proceeds of such winding up, but that an amendment was brought forward by Mr. Burkill and Mr. Davidson, and was carried without dissension to form a company to carry on business as a Loan and Investment Company. At that meeting the opinion was expressed that it seemed to be a very inopportune time to think of liquidating any investments and that with the very low levels of value then ruling, and with little chance of an improvement for some time it was not too much to hope that we ought in time to see a very material rise in the investments to be taken over. This feeling was shared by all, and hence the formation of the company. This amendment to the proposal brought forward by the Directors of the Langkat Company had, I may say, their full support. Unfortunately this material rise in the values of many of the shares taken over has not yet come, and therefore we have had no opportunity of realizing them, and using the money fully as it was hoped to do, for making loans and similar business. Since the company started business in January, 1919, there have been some changes in the shares invested in, and on the first year's working of the company a dividend of Tls. 0.30 per share was paid, and Tls. 50,000 was placed to a reserve against investment fluctuations. The second year's working has shown a slightly increased profit, but owing to the general financial position in Shanghai, and the difficult times through which we are passing, your Directors have thought it wise to place to a General Reserve Tls. 75,000, and carry forward the balance.

Last year the approximate market value of the investments and debentures and the cost at which they were taken into the balance sheet showed an adverse difference of about Tls. 100,000. This year the difference is still greater and is now approximately Tls. 180,000 below cost.

THE RIGHT COURSE.

With regard to the auditors' remark, that our loans against shares are not covered to the extent that would in normal times be consider-

ed prudent, I wish to make it quite plain that every care is being taken to further your interests, and your Directors are of opinion that in course of time, the company will be able to recover the amounts loaned.

From what I have said, you will see that the loss on paper amounts to roughly Tls. 300,000, against which we shall have reserves amounting to Tls. 125,000 and a carry forward of rather more than Tls. 80,000, but we trust that we shall not have to use any of this money to make up the difference.

I have been told that there are some shareholders who think it would be better if we had written our investments down and shown a loss in the balance sheet, but if we had done that we should have had to write them up again, and possibly to show a large profit later on. Your Directors feel that the course they have adopted is the preferable one. This, I believe, is also the opinion of the auditors.

Although I think you will agree with me that for obvious reasons it is not wise for us to make public just what our investments are, I think in order to give you a fair idea of what likelihood there is of a reasonable recovery in the value of them, there can be no harm in telling you that of the Tls. 1,280,000 in investments and debentures, Tls. 570,000 is in rubber, and the greater part of this is in companies whose position is such that they will undoubtedly be able to pull through the present very difficult times.

Of the Tls. 600,000 in loans, Tls. 95,000 is represented by rubber, and Tls. 460,000 by cotton shares, and Tls. 40,000 by other shares.

As for the future, it is very difficult to say anything. We shall of course, expect to earn something in the way of dividends, and we shall hope to realize some of our holdings to advantage during the year, but until we can do so there will not be much opportunity of engaging in fresh business, as we do not want to increase our borrowings for this purpose.

There were no questions, and the formal resolutions were carried.

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

NEW AMERICAN

COUNTRY CLUB

Plans Progressing

Plans of the Columbia Country Club for the improvement of new property and the erection of club buildings have gone on apace, it was brought out at the annual meeting of the club members last Friday. Mr. W. A. B. Nichols, president of the club, stated that the purchase of the land was progressing rapidly and that the financial report showed that subscriptions were coming in in good amounts and from many sources and that there is no question that

plenty of money can be raised for this new work in Shanghai. A report from Mr. R. T. Bryan on the subject of the incorporation of the club was read. Officers were elected for the coming year. Four of last year's members of the Board of Governors were continued in office for the new year. These are Messrs. C. W. Atkinson, A. Bassett, H. B. Lane, and R. T. Bryan, Jr. New members elected are Messrs. W. A. Chapman, J. Harold Dollar, Wm. Morris, A. T. Harr, W. R. Smith, C. Crow, J. F. Potter, and L. Everett.

Additional members of the balloting committee elected are Messrs. F. R. Sites, W. A. B. Nichols, F. C. Noble, D. D. Patterson, R. W. Hamlet, J. B. Davies, E. J. Stoker, R. Deming, Jr.

SHANGHAI RIFLE ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Shanghai Rifle Association was held at the Town Hall on Monday evening, and was well attended by members, whose keenness and admirable marksmanship during the past year, has given a big impetus to rifle shooting in the Settlement.

During the past year the S.R.A. gave \$366.50 to local charities. A cup presented by Sgt. H. W. Lambert, which was shown to members, will be fired for in February, and the proceeds of the competition are to be sent to the London Hospital.

After confirming the minutes of the previous meeting, the statement of accounts, showing a balance of income over expenditure, for the year ending December 31, of \$872.10, was passed by acclamation.

Mr. A. M. Collaco is re-elected secretary and treasurer. Messrs. H. W. Lambert, O. L. Ilbert, K. D. Chen, R. I. Ito, Dr. S. A. Ransom, and Qr.-Mr.-Sgt. W. T. Rose are elected to the committee for 1921.

UNITED SERVICES ASSOCIATION

The Year's Work

The second annual general meeting of the United Services Association was held on Monday at the Palace Hotel. Col. R. Marr Johnson, C.M.G., D.S.O. presided over a very good attendance of members, including a number of lady members.

In presenting the report for the year and balance sheet, the Chairman expressed pleasure in seeing such a good attendance, and especially welcomed the lady members. He went on to say that the thanks of the Association were due to those who had provided funds enabling them to carry on. The largest donation received was one of Tls. 20,000 from an anonymous donor

(applause), and next came the Shanghai Race Club, which had generously subscribed a considerable sum of money. (Applause). The last donation of \$5,000 just saved the Committee from having to dip into their invested funds. The number of men seeking the assistance of the Association in obtaining employment had averaged five per day during the year. A list was prepared and sent round to British Hongs once a fortnight, and in this way employment had been found for 52 men. The Association had also provided passages home, and to Canada, for ex-service men, and had repatriated one family and the wife of an ex-officer. These calls pressed rather heavily on the funds, but all were most deserving cases. Other ex-service men in Shanghai had been assisted with temporary help, in the way of board and lodging and small grants to keep them going.

WORLD WIDE ORGANIZATIONS.

A great deal of work had fallen upon the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, and the thanks of all were due to Major Manners, Captain McMichael, Captain West, and Mr. Geary in this connexion. The Association now had quite a considerable number of lady members, and a small committee had been formed so that they might express the views of the ladies in committee and generally help in the work of the association. The membership of all ladies who were eligible would be welcomed. (Applause). During the year, 173 ordinary members and 96 life members had been enrolled, bringing the total membership to 509 men, with 43 ladies (applause).

The speaker mentioned two interesting movements among ex-service men, reported in the "Army and Navy Gazette." The first is an Imperial organization, to include men of all ranks throughout the Empire, each country having control of its own organization and working according to a general policy laid down by the parent body. One of the objects of this organization will be to conduct an employment exchange on an Imperial basis, and generally to work on the principle of mutual aid. The second movement is that of an Inter-Allied Federation of ex-service men having its headquarters in Paris, one of the objects of which will be to maintain the friendship formed on the battlefield and work towards meeting difficulties which may arise from time to time among the allied nations. The Shanghai Association would no doubt be glad to join in both movements, the Chairman added, amid applause.

The accounts for the year were unanimously adopted, and the meeting further agreed that the articles of association be altered to enable the hon. treasurer to sign cheques for Tls. 100, his power at present being limited in this respect to half that amount.

Mr. Schlee was next appointed honorary secretary of the Association, and on a ballot being taken,

the following were elected members of the Committee: Col. Marr Johnson, Captain H. J. West, Captain J. Budgen, Dr. E. G. Gauntlett, and Messrs. M. Reader Harris, E. H. McMichael, V. D. K. Craddock, T. Griffin, F. H. Geary, and J. C. Rosustow.

BRITISH WOMEN'S WORK.

The Chairman mentioned the work of the British Women's War Memorial Fund, started for the purpose of helping British women in difficult circumstances owing to the war. The committee now consisted of Lady Fraser, Mrs. Burkill, Mrs. John Liddell, Mrs. Gauntlett, Mrs. Stitt, and Mrs. McMichael, and they should be communicated with if members knew of any case requiring assistance. This committee, the Chairman added, worked with the Association in administering its funds.

A suggestion that the Association might be able to open a meeting place for members was ruled out on the ground of expense.

SHANGHAI FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Council Meeting

The first meeting of the Council of the new Shanghai Football Association was held at Shepherd's Café, No. 33 Kiangse Road, on Wednesday evening, when Mr. John Prentice (President of the Council) presided over an excellent attendance, only three being absent from the full membership of 22.

The first business before the meeting was the election of a Board of Appeal and on an unanimous vote Judge Skinner Turner was elected Chairman with Messrs. E. C. Pearce and G. M. Billings to complete the Board.

The election of an auditor followed, and Mr. H. J. Watt, A.C.A., (Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews) kindly consented to act as Hon. Auditor and was duly elected.

The standing orders were passed, with one or two additions, and the greater part of the meeting was occupied with the consideration of the rules to govern the Shanghai Football League, the "Skottowe" Cup, and the "Prentice-Skottowe" International Cup competitions, revised rules eventually being adopted.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the outgoing officials of the Association, proposed by Mr. John Prentice, who emphasized the good work during the past five or six years done by Mr. W. C. G. Clifford, to Mr. Fulton for his onerous and excellent work in furthering the interests of Association football in Shanghai, and to Mr. Shepherd for the use of his room for the purposes of the meeting.

INFLUENZA in Japan is still on the increase. In September there were 705 cases and 25 deaths, and in December 9,181 cases and 173 deaths.

SPORT & S. V. C.

VOLUNTEER ROUTE
MARCH

Attractive Parade in the Settlement

The Volunteer Corps was out in force on Sunday and attracted the utmost attention by undertaking a route march through the principal roads of the Settlement. The parade provided the public with an excellent idea of the strength of the Corps, and old volunteers were impressed with the manner in which schemes for its further efficiency are being worked out. The presence of motors, giving a very great mobility to the machine gun arm, was an especially interesting feature of what was undoubtedly a very businesslike turnout.

The strength on parade was:—

Headquarters	5
Light Horse	67
Field Artillery Bat.	38
Engineers	19
Machine Gun Co.	24
Italian Co.	15
"A" Co. British	38
"B" Co. British	26
Customs Co.	15
American Co.	43
Portuguese Co.	45
Japanese Co.	90
Chinese Co.	95
Shanghai-Scottish	40

Total 560

A CREDITABLE EXHIBITION.

The turnout was in every sense very creditable. The Light Horse and Artillery made a fine show as they made their way through the Settlement, reflecting credit on the efficiency of the officers and keenness of other ranks. The machine guns were man-handled smartly, and difficult as it was to handle the motor section of the Machine Gun Co. owing to the rate of progression placing a strain on the engines, it was none the less well carried out.

No band was provided for the infantry companies to march to, and this made their work the more to be appreciated.

NEW MOTOR ADJUNCTS.

Special reference must be made to the appearance on the parade of motor vehicles. When the Light Horse moved off their rear was brought up by two motor cars and one truck. The former were provided with platforms behind the driver's seat on which automatic rifles were mounted, while the truck, which is the property of the unit, carried the mountings of a machine gun. It is a 20 h.p. lorry of 30 cwt., having a converted float body with sunk well. Here the tripod is mounted, and is so designed that there will be a field of fire of 360 degrees. Later on it is anticipated that arrangements will be made for using a Lewis Gun for firing over the driver's head. If so

it will be employed on an aerial mounting. Two adjustable search-lights are provided for spotting night targets.

The lorry now attached to the Artillery battery will, when complete, be another extremely useful adjunct to the Corps, especially in connexion with the battery's signals. It is a 25 h.p. 3 ton lorry, the body designed on the lines of the British war pattern wagon. It has been strengthened with steel side rails, and the superstructure of steel is designed to take an aerial mast. Seating accommodation is provided for 30 men, while it can also be used as an ammunition carrier, the floor having steel slide rails. Compartments are fitted to carry telephones and reels of wire, and there is a special under fitting which will enable a telephone line to be laid while the lorry is in motion. Under the body is a cleated running out board for facilitating loading, while two spot lights are arranged for target finding.

SHANGHAI PAPERHUNT
CLUB

Saturday's Hunt

The confident anticipation of hunters during the past week was that Saturday's event was sure to take place in the French or Siccawei country. The hunt was, however, laid by Mr. Benbow Rowe in the Home country, in quite familiar ground, but taking in lines of jumps which have not been much used in recent years. The hunt was a short one, as hunts go nowadays; the weather was delightful, the going good, the jumps in excellent condition, and the day's outing was enjoyed by all concerned.

The finish was at Pons Asinorum, where a number of spectators had gathered. The jump was wide and ugly, and the water still and deep. The hunt had been gone a bare 40 minutes, when the outriders and mounted folk came cantering in, heralding its approach; then in the far distance could just be discerned the mass of riders approaching Marah, just a few pink coats among them. A few minutes more, and then in the furious onrush approaching Pons could be distinguished first one and then another, urged on by those near by with shouts of encouragement. Messrs. Earl B. Rose and J. K. Brand were foremost in the final effort, and the former leaped Pons beautifully and thus won both light and heavy weight events. Mr. H. Herlofsen, on Medina-Sidonia was third. The card reads as follows:—

1 E. B. Rose	Red Pepper
2 J. K. Brand	Forglen
3 H. Herlofsen	Medina-Sidonia
4 C. N. Davis	Hamlet
5 C. Harper	Jock Scott
6 J. C. Bauld	Cadzow's Glen

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

"Skottowe" Cup Competition

Shanghai Football Club v.
Shanghai Recreation Club "B"
Team.

The previously unfinished match between these teams, in the first round of the "Skottowe" Cup competition, was replayed on the Football Club's ground on Saturday afternoon in the presence of a very large gathering of spectators, supporters of both Clubs being present in fairly equal numbers. It was a fast and exciting game, but was not a good exhibition of football, the main feature being the inability of the forwards—particularly those of the Football Club—to shoot with any degree of strength or accuracy. The Football Club had considerably the better of the play, but were very weak indeed when in front of their opponents' goal, and but for the latter fact should have won by a far larger margin than one goal to nil.

Shanghai Football Club 1 goal
Shanghai Recreation Club
"B" Team nil

Presentations to Retiring Officers

At the conclusion of the match two very pleasant functions took place in presentations to retiring honorary officers, both leaving shortly for England on Home leave. One was at the pavilion of the Shanghai Cricket Club, to Mr. R. Grimshaw, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Football Club, and the other at the pavilion of the Recreation Club, to Mr. J. E. Lucas, President of that Club.

The Cricket Club's pavilion had been well decorated, and there was a very large attendance of members of the Shanghai Football Club present when Sir Everard Fraser, K.C.M.G., President of the Club, ascended the dais to make the presentation.

Sir Everard outlined Mr. Grimshaw's connexion with the sport and his activities on behalf of the Club. He said he felt sure that the sentiments of the members there were identical with his own in wishing Mr. Grimshaw a very pleasant time in the homeland.

Sir Everard then presented Mr. Grimshaw with a handsome silver travelling clock, which had been suitably inscribed.

In reply, Mr. Grimshaw said that he appreciated very much this expression of goodwill and esteem, and assured them all that he would treasure their gift as long as he lived.

AT THE RECREATION CLUB.

In the pavilion of the Shanghai Recreation Club there was an equally large assembly of members of that and other football clubs to bid farewell to Mr. J. E. Lucas, President of the Recreation Club, and to offer him a token of their appreciation of the services he has

rendered to the Club during his residence in Shanghai.

In making the presentation, Mr. H. S. Smyth, Vice-President of the Club, referred to the good work of Mr. Lucas, and mentioned that their retiring president first arrived in Shanghai in 1906 and in the following year became a member of the Club. He was a member of the committee in the years 1911-12-13; was Hon. Treasurer in 1914-15-16-17; was elected Vice-President in 1918, and had been their President during the years 1919-20.

The presentation was a beautifully engraved silver salver, bearing the inscription: "Shanghai Recreation Club. Presented to J. E. Lucas, Esq., President, as a token of esteem and appreciation of the services he has rendered to the Club during the past ten years.—Shanghai, January 22, 1921."

Mr. Lucas, in thanking the members of the Club for their appreciation of such services as he had rendered, wished all prosperity to the Club in the future and said that on his return to Shanghai he hoped always to be able to assist in promoting the interests of the Club.

League Second Divison

The following are the results of matches played on Saturday, the 22nd instant:—

Engineers F. C., 4 goals; B.-A. T. Football Club, 1 goal.

Customs R. C., 4 goals; S. M. Police 2nd XI, 1 goal.

Shanghai Public School, 2 goals; Electricity Dept., S. M. C., 0.

Official League standing to January 25:
FIRST DIVISION.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	F.	A.	Points
S. R. C.	3	2	0	1	7	2	5	
St. Xavier's	4	2	1	1	6	9	5	
S. F. C.	3	1	2	0	7	7	2	
Police R. C.	4	1	3	0	9	11	2	

SECOND DIVISION.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals	F.	A.	Points
S. F. C.	7	7	0	0	30	6	14	
S. R. C.	5	4	0	1	20	3	9	
Customs	6	4	1	1	18	11	9	
Engineers	8	4	3	1	12	23	9	
St. Xavier's	5	3	2	0	18	4	6	
P. School	4	3	1	0	14	8	6	
Navy	5	2	1	2	14	10	6	
International	7	2	3	2	8	18	6	
B.-A.T.	7	2	5	0	5	16	4	
Rangers	8	1	5	2	11	30	4	
Elec. Dept.	5	0	4	1	4	15	1	
Police R. C.	7	0	7	0	1	11	0	

CRICKET

3rd Test Match Won by Australia Adelaide, Jan. 19.

Australia has won the third Test Match (and rubber) by 119 runs. England's second innings closed for 370, towards which Hobbs contributed 123, Russell 59, and Henderson 51.

The innings scores were as follows:—

Australia—1st innings: 354 runs;
Australia—2nd innings: 582 runs;
England—1st innings: 447 runs;
England—2nd innings: 370 runs.

—Reuter.

SHANGHAI BILLIARD CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. E. F. Fasting v. Mr. G. M. P. Remedios

The last heat in the first-round of the Shanghai billiards championship was played at the American Club last Friday, when Mr. Fasting gained a fairly easy victory over Mr. Remedios by 750 points to 516.

The winner's best breaks were: 51, 32, 32, 32, 30, 24, 21, 18 and 17, and those of Mr. Remedios 31, 20, 19, 18, 16, 16, 16, 16.

Mr. J. Prince v. Mr. E. F. Fasting.

Another match in the Shanghai Billiard Championship was played on Sunday, when J. Prince and E. F. Fasting met in the second round at the Shanghai Club. Prince won, scoring 750 to his opponent's 678, and now enters the semi-final.

The best breaks were:

Fasting—25, 23, 23, 45, 39, 27 and 23.

Prince—35, 54, 23, 25, 25, 25, 31, 28, 21, 25 and 22.

Bush v. Silva.

Mr. E. D. Bush and Mr. F. P. da Silva met in the second round of the competition at the American Club on Wednesday. The exhibition was not brilliant, Silva in particular being off his game. Bush gained an early lead and went steadily ahead, winning comfortably, the final scores being:

Bush 750

Silva 603

The best breaks were as follows:

Bush:—24, 24, 45, 28, 22, 24, 27.

Silva:—27, 20, 24, 22, 20, 26, 28.

LAWN TENNIS

America v. Australia

Sydney, Jan. 21.

A further lawn tennis Test Match between Australia and America was played to-day, America winning by 3 matches to nil. In the singles, Washburn beat Hawke (6/4; 6/4) and Johnston beat Heath (6/3; 6/3), and in the doubles, Tilden and Johnston beat Brookes and O'Hara Wood (10/8; 2/6; 7/5; 6/2).

Jan. 22.

America was again victorious to-day in further lawn-tennis Test Match play against Australia. The results were as follows:—

Singles: Johnston (U.S.A.) beat Hawkes; 6/3; 8/6; Tilden (U.S.A.) beat Brookes; 6/4; 6/8; 7/5.

Doubles: Washburn and Johnston (U.S.A.) beat Heath and O'Hara Wood (Australia); 6/3; 9/7; 6/1.—Reuter.

American Tennis Championship

Philadelphia, Jan. 21.

Jay Gould defeated Jack Soukar by five sets to one in a best out of nine match for the Tennis Championship of America.—Reuter.

WRESTLING CHAMPIONS

Sensational Ending to Match in New York

New York, Jan. 25.

In a contest for the World's Heavyweight Wrestling Championship held here last night, "Strangler," Lewis defeated Earl Craddock in one hour and 34 minutes, throwing him with a combined headlock and hiplock.

The brutality of the headlock, which is somewhat similar to the old "strangle-hold," incensed the spectators, and when Craddock became unconscious, the cry of "Kill the murderer" was raised, and a concerted rush was made toward the ring. The Master of Ceremonies prevented the crowd from attacking Lewis.

It is announced that Joe Stecher, the former heavyweight champion, who was recently defeated by Lewis in a match for the championship, is suffering from partial paralysis, and will be unable to wrestle for the next 12 months as a result of the headlock applied by Lewis.—Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL

FOOTBALL

London, Jan. 22.

France beat Scotland by 3 points to nil at Rugby football to-day at Edinburgh.

Wales beat England by 2 goals to nil at Association Football (Amateur International) at Wolverhampton.—Reuter.

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Special Articles

OLIVER CROMWELL AND OUR TIMES

Notes of a sermon preached by the Rev. C. E. Darwent in Union Church, Tientsin, Sunday evening, Jan. 16. Text: "Marvel not that I said unto you ye must be born anew." St. John III. 7.

In his Lectures on Heroes, Carlyle says of Cromwell, "Had England all rallied round him—why, then England might have been a Christian land. As it is, vulpine know- ingness sits yet at its hopeless problem; given a world of knaves, to educe an Honesty from their united action." That is fairly stiff on us; but putting Great Britain and Ireland, the United States, France, and all other countries along with "England" it is just about true. Carlyle is right, as he generally is, on fundamental truths. If our modern manhood in all our nations had gone through the same experience as Cromwell, the world would not be as sick, as, according to all the doctors, political, economic, and moral, it is.

So I propose to-night to ask what happened to this Oliver, by his aristocratic enemies called "Old Noll," that made him so powerful a character; so powerful, that whenever our country is in dire distress, we all sigh for Cromwell. He would have straightened out by now some people who are causing a lot of trouble. The thing is to ask, did he have access to any help to character-building that is not open to us? I propose, further, to do this by the help of Mr. Douglas MacLeane, who has recently brought some most significant facts to light, regarding Cromwell, that will help us.

THE "HYPOCRITE" THEORY.

You all know the ordinary theory about this great man; that he was a good deal of a hypocrite. That was the idea that all the court people and the "High" people had of him. The infidel Hume's idea was that he began by being a sincere fanatic and ended up by being a religious hypocrite. Being mere flippant skaters over the surface of life, they cannot understand a letter, like that one, which he wrote to a cousin, Mr. St. John, in 1638, when he was 31 years of age: "To honour God by declaring what he hath done for my soul, that will I do." Of course people, who never let God do anything for their souls, will call that hypocrisy. "I have had plentiful wages beforehand," he says "and I am sure I shall never earn the least mite. The Lord accept me in His Son. Blessed be His name for shining on so dark a heart as mine. You know what my manner of life hath been. I lived in and loved darkness rather than light. I was a chief, the chief of sinners. Yet God had mercy on me." As Carlyle says, infidel Humes and their followers, who know nothing

of the depths of experience of the soul, call this sheer hypocrisy. But this is just because shallowness can never fathom depth. And Mr. MacLeane has been making some investigations, which entirely support Carlyle's passionate belief in Cromwell's sincerity in admitting that he had been wild. It appears that while old St. John's church, Huntingdon, has been pulled down, the old registers remain. And in the old church registers there are two astonishing entries regarding Cromwell: in the entries of the year 1621 there is this; "*Oliverius Cromwell, filius Roberti, reprehensus est coram tota ecclesia pro factis.*" That is, "Oliver Cromwell was admonished in the presence of the whole church on account of his conduct, or deeds." The meaning is, of course, evil deeds. The other entry in the year 1628 runs thus: "*Oliverius Cromwell fecit poenitentias coram tota ecclesia;*" he "did penance, or professed penitence, publicly. Here indeed is something for us to think about, and for the people who hold the "hypocrite" theory to think about.

In the seventeenth, and far down into the eighteenth century in England and Scotland, church discipline was strict; offenders in a parish were cited to appear the next Sabbath, in the parish church, to be publicly admonished for their sins. They had to go. It was a trying ordeal. Drinking to excess, slandering, fox-hunting on Sundays, railing at the parson, holding irreverent opinions, as well as the graver offences against morals, were all dealt with. The "stool of repentance" was not a thing to be laughed at. "What is it thou hast been guilty of?" asks the minister of an old woman. "An auld offence; a leein tongue," says she; and she is told what holy David says about the deceitfulness of the tongue. And Mr. MacLeane is sure that these old records are genuine, and that the great Lord Protector, the greatest ruler England ever had, once stood up and owned his sins before God and man. It is a fortunate thing for a good many people, that we have been born later.

BORN ANEW.

Now there were persistent reports in his own century, that Cromwell was a gay liver in his young manhood. But a tremendous change came over him. The power of God overshadowed him; he was somewhere or other "born anew;" "old things passed away, all things became new." He became a converted man. I wish I could get the promise of every man and woman here to read Carlyle's "Letters of Cromwell." That great man was not prejudiced in favour of the Gospel; and I feel I must read you

this deep, searching comment on this conversion of Cromwell, which influenced the history of the whole world. Carlyle says, "O modern reader! Dark as this letter may seem, I will advise thee to make an attempt to understand it (he is alluding to the letter I quoted). Indisputable evidence that man once had a soul; that man walked with God; his little life a sacred island girdled with Eternities. I say thou shalt understand that letter, thou also looking out into a too brutish world—will then exclaim with Cromwell, with David, and as the Presbyterian populations still sing in the northern kirks

"Woes me that I in Meshec am
A sojourner so long;
Or that I in the tents do dwell,
To Kedar that belong."

Yes, there is a tone in that Oliver that holds of the Perennial. He, I think, has chosen the better part. With a noble patience he longs toward the mark of the price of the high calling. "Snatched out of darkness; to live or die for ever; as Thou wilt, not as I will." Then comes Carlyle's appeal to the men of this generation. Happy are we that have a great writer, who is not a scoffer, but has courage to make this appeal: "Brother, hadst thou never in any form such moments in thy history? Thou knowest them not? Well, thy earthly path were peacefuller, I suppose. But the Highest was never in thee; the Highest will never come out of thee. Thou shalt at best abide by the stuff, with collar, and provender; but the battle, and hero's death, and the victor's fire-chariot, carrying thee to the Immortals, shall never be thine."

A VAST FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE.

Young men, fill your minds with passages like this, and you will not be the mere "healthy animals," the mere frivols, that so many are. You see that Carlyle accepts Cromwell's account of himself. God had been merciful to him. A vast fundamental change had come over him. He was not exaggerating a bit. He had come under the power of God in a way in which he had not been under it before. And in his letter to his cousin he is full of this great thing, that had happened to him. He says it was not his own doing; it wasn't just an effort of his own nature to get right, and no doubt it is proper for a man to make every effort of his own, that he can, to get himself up out of the bog of evil ways. But what Oliver says he had experienced was, that a power over and above his own had come into his soul, and had decided the whole business, the whole bent and structure and purpose and power of his life.

What then had happened to the man? Just what Jesus tells Nicodemus must happen to every man; "Marvel not that I say unto you, ye

must be born again." But people do marvel. They doubt the possibility of such a change coming over a man. They don't like the idea of human nature needing a power to make men masters of their own souls, that does not originate in human nature itself. They are like the old Highland fisherman. Two of them were out fishing, when a great storm came on. It was so bad, that one said to the other: "Donal, can you put up a bit of a prayer?" He didn't do so at once. And on the gale abating he said, "No, we won't be beholdin' to nobody." We want to be like Donald morally and spiritually; we don't want to owe anything even to God. All our rationalistic and secular-minded moralists have that kink in them. Cromwell, however, had no doubts. He knew he hadn't reformed himself. God had got into him, and given his nature a pull round, a lift up, a reinforcement of his better nature, a "new birth," a something, that had made all the difference to him. He knew that and Carlyle, like a deep-thinking man, admitted it, and the need of it. And none of us need open our eyes very wide on the state of the world, and need not go further than our own senses, to see the bitter need of some power not our own, some power from God to supplement, to quicken, to reinforce our weakness.

THE DIVINE ENERGY.

Why, O why, should our age be so sceptical as to this grand promise of a new birth? Surely this same Thomas Carlyle is right when he says that there must be a point in a man's life when he ceases to go downward, and begins to go upward. Jesus says that that point is when a man receives a new accession to divine energy. Natural forces in man's soul are not equal to conquering the powers of evil.

Consider now how *reasonable* is the doctrine of the new birth. It is in accord with the whole of nature. Notice that things belonging to a lower kingdom only ascend to a higher kingdom by the higher descending and taking them up. For instance, the dead chemicals in the soil can only be made the living tissue of the stem and leaves of a plant by the plant growing and taking them up into itself. They don't make themselves live tissues. So it is with the way in which vegetable tissue in plants becomes animal tissue. The higher creature, the animal, has to be there first and take the lower plant organism up into itself. So it is with man. The spiritual, the life of God must descend into him and renew him. He cannot lift himself up, and live the life of the Spirit unless the Spirit descends into him. And this is the great promise of the Gospel; that by faith in Jesus Christ a man can get this new impulse, this new accession of divine power, that Cromwell got. Why should men make such a wonder of it? There is Kipling's book, "From Sea to Sea." He tells how he met a drummer, or as we British say, a

commercial traveller, in, I think, the hardware line. This drummer soon told Kipling that he had received or "got religion." He had been born again. Kipling says something like this: Here in a hardware drummer, the central mystery of the universe had taken place in him. Yes; and why not? To deny the possibility of it is to deny that God can have any real contact with man at all. And we Christians hold on to this as the one hope of the world. It may come to a man by a sermon, a verse, a sight of man's need, a consciousness of utter helplessness, it can start in a thousand ways, but that it is real, that Cromwell had got what we all need, is our firm belief, and only hope.

DOWN BELOW THE SURFACE.

Notice how *thorough* the Christian way of salvation is. Education, moral rules and resolutions can do a little. But they are not deep enough. The Christian idea is that you must get down below the surface, down into the subsoil of a man's soul, before you can get a man into a condition in which sin will not have power over him, and that comes through God in His grace giving new life, a new accession of His Holy Spirit, through Christ. This is our Gospel. It is indeed "Good News" for such a world as this.

And it is *effectual*. Here is Cromwell. It saved him. We should never have heard of him, but for that. His would have been a wrecked life, as so many are. It gave him grand ideals; filled him with thoughts of establishing the kingdom of God on earth. He made a good try at it, as Carlyle says. And it is the only effectual remedy for the world's sin. All others are mere "pills to cure earthquakes." Christianity says to us; make a clean new beginning, give yourselves to God, to be "born anew." This Christian way is *comprehensive*. Notice that. It is sometimes said, that in the Gospels Jesus has nothing to say about moral reforms. It is hard to get a temper-

ance text, or any text to suit the numerous leagues and societies that our modern Christianity has founded. Christ seems to have small use for partial reforming efforts. And that is true. Thank God for that. And the reason is clear. If we are "born anew," that carries all reforms with it. When the sun rises you don't need any candles at all. Let your soul be possessed by God, and by His Spirit, you will go right in every direction. You won't need to be bored by having to be saved in sections, in petty betterments here and there. You can keep blessedly clear of all reforming societies. The heavy drinker, the fool to whom his comrade won't advance another five dollars, the worldling, the miser, the liar, the selfish, proud, the unbrotherly, had better far pray to be subjects of this grand transforming power of the grace of God in Christ, and they will be "made whole."

POSSIBLE FOR ALL.

Our Lord knew the world. He knew that small peddling reforms are little use. And who can doubt it? We have only to look round on all the substitutes for this thorough method of the Saviour, to see that they all fail, education, ethical societies, and all the rest. And this is the great promise of the Saviour, that this great thing, that saved Cromwell, that astonished Kipling, is possible for all, and is needed by all. Who can doubt that, who has eyes in his head? Leagues for the promotion of this and the other reform may help a little; but the thing that alone can save modern society from its class hatreds, its materialism, its self-indulgence; that can alone ground its life in the things that are eternal, pure, satisfying, clean and holy, is for all men to know this experience, that brought Cromwell out of darkness into the marvellous light of the kingdom of God, "born again, not of corruptible seed, but by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

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JAPANESE-AMERICAN WAR RUMOURS

Absurd and Malicious Stories
Propagated by Chinese
Press of Peking

From Rodney Gilbert.

Peking, Jan. 19.

A great war between America and Japan has already been fought and won and lost in the metropolitan press.

Here in Peking we have had three weeks of incessant war talk, which Chinese from the South assure us is not reflected in the vernacular journals of Shanghai, Hankow or Canton. Telegrams have been deliberately "faked," foreign news has been manufactured by the yard in Chinese editorial offices and even the Chinese-owned papers published in English have been carried away by the general hysteria and have reproduced long translations from the native press dealing with a hypothetical war between the United States and Japan. This gossip has turned the heads of many really sensible people in the Ministries and wherever one goes it is now impossible to discuss anything but war and what would happen in case of war. The Legations are, therefore, interested and are making vigorous efforts to trace this rumour epidemic to the source of infection.

JAPANESE NOT TO BLAME.

There is every reason to believe that the Japanese are not to blame. The Japanese military party stimulates war talk in Japan as a constant apology for war taxation. If Japan were at perfect peace with the whole world and the common people were given to understand that there could be no war, they would object vociferously to the maintenance of an army and navy on a war footing far in excess of anything commensurate with Japan's natural wealth and resources. Any Japanese civil official will freely admit this and either support or extenuate this policy of the military directorate which rules Japan. But every Japanese, civil or military, deplors at this moment the fact that this war talk has spread beyond Japanese boundaries, that it is the subject of common gossip in China and that it will undoubtedly be cabled to Europe and America where it will arouse suspicion and ill-feeling which Japan would much rather see at rest.

SCOUTED BY JAPANESE.

The local war gossip has prompted many Chinese to inquire of their Japanese official friends what the possibilities of war might be and all agree that the Japanese speak with serious sincerity when they say that Japan at this moment would not enter into a war with America unless it were forced upon her by some act of intolerable aggression. They point out that Japan is not prepared to make an aggressive naval fight. If America

attacked Japan it would be a siege, for Japan could not hope to attack America. Japan would be forced to keep the better part of her fleet behind her chain of islands, mine the channels and try to keep the American fleet from entering the Yellow and China seas and cutting her off from China.

Financially Japan is no more than self-sufficient at this moment. A protracted siege would ruin her as surely as a naval or military defeat. A siege in which she would be cut off from China's supply of coal, iron and grain would mean total ruin.

Japanese officials, therefore, warn the Chinese that since a war with America would be a life and death struggle for Japan, Japan would adopt desperate measures in keeping with her desperate situation and that China's neutrality would not be respected for a moment. Japanese troops would occupy every railway, port and mine which could be of service in the production or transport of war materials. Of this the Chinese have semi-official assurance, so that their interest in the present rumour epidemic is something more than casual. Yet the Chinese are certainly guilty of spreading war rumours with malice aforethought.

CHINESE AGAINST JAPAN.

Chinese military officers, when questioned about China's hypothetical attitude in the event of war, say that there is no telling what the Government might do but that since Japan must draw upon China's resources to fight and since the rank and file of the Chinese people are anti-Japanese for tangible reasons and pro-American for sentimental reasons, it is probable that throughout China and Korea the Japanese army would encounter a persistent campaign of sabotage with which they would find it difficult to cope.

This, of course, is all conditional speculation. Usually such speculations are confined to the Boards of Strategy of the various Powers, but since the Chinese press insists upon assuming the functions and prerogatives of a Chinese Board of Strategy the war question cannot be ignored, delicate as it may be. If the Chinese insist upon war between America and Japan in spite of the fact that they are promised a Japanese occupation, and in spite of the fact that neither Japan nor America wants war, it is up to the Chinese to find for one or the other a sufficient pretext.

THE COMPETITION FOR THE PACIFIC.

A high Chinese military authority, whom the writer recently cross-examined upon this topic, said out of his innocence (the man is supposed to have no political insight) that he was certain in his own mind that America would never fight Japan over any Far Eastern question, whether it concerned China, Korea or Saghalien and that Japan would never challenge America on account of any offensive legislation in California, but that America hoped to

build a Pacific trade while Japan hoped to control trade in the Pacific, so that sooner or later, while bad feeling grew and incidents mounted up, Japan and America would collide and there would be an explosion.

It cannot be denied that this defines in outline the feelings of nearly every Japanese and American in the Far East. Talk of immediate war is unwelcome to the Japanese, because they are not prepared with either resources or war material and in America it would be impossible because the mind of the American democracy, which makes and finishes wars, has not yet sufficient understanding of the Far Eastern situation. An immediate outbreak is, therefore, impossible and the Chinese press should understand why it is impossible—because, discarding all sentiment and diplomatic language, Japan is not prepared and because the heterogeneous American public has formulated no opinion upon the matter.

PERFIDIOUS ALBION AS USUAL.

Nearly every Chinese potentate has been profoundly stirred by the war talk circulated by the Peking newspapers, and they have all instructed their "*tai piao*" in Peking to inquire into the source and inspiration of the various rumours afloat. The Legations, for the most part, have no explanation to offer, but in the Japanese Legation it is explained, *sotto voce*, to Chinese callers that the British mercantile community is responsible for the dissemination of all the war gossip. The Japanese diplomats explain that since America holds the world's largest gold reserve and since Japan is apparently independent financially, the British merchants in China fear that they cannot recover as rapidly from war depression as they had anticipated and that, with restricted credit at home, they will be in no position to compete with America and Japan in the Far East. British commercial houses, so certain Japanese say, are therefore eager to promote war—trusting that it will be a protracted war—between America and Japan, in the hope that both will be financially ruined and that Great Britain will again assume her normal commercial ascendancy in the Far East.

THROW ENOUGH MUD.

The writer could quote at least two delegates who have accepted this story as *bona fide* and have reported it to their provincial chiefs as the true solution of the sudden dissemination of war talk in Peking. In their reports they take care to stipulate, as do the Japanese, that the attitude of the British merchants is not the attitude of the British Legation or of British officialdom generally—but nevertheless the responsibility for all the war discussion in Peking is placed upon the British commercial community and there will be a good many scores of Chinese officials, great and small, who will accept this explanation in good faith.

CHINA'S COPPER COINAGE

Heavy Increase in Depreciated Currency During Last Two Years: Reforms Needed

A very interesting and able memorandum on the subject of the depreciation of China's copper coinage has been prepared by Mr. D. McColl, general manager of the Shanghai Tramways. He states that in consequence of the appearance in circulation of steadily increasing quantities of copper coins, with additional depreciation, during the past two years, he recently investigated the whole matter, and the results are embodied in this memorandum.

COINS IN CIRCULATION.

The memorandum states that, since the early part of 1919, when the new coins began to appear in Shanghai, daily records have been kept by the Shanghai Tramways (Foreign Settlement) of the proportion of such new coins in the revenue. Starting with February, 1919, the proportion was 2.70 per cent., while in December, 1920, it was 8.44 per cent. By January 4 the ratio had increased to 10.84. Mr. McColl then proceeds:—

As the copper coins in circulation at the end of 1918 are doubtless still in use, the figure of 10.84 per cent. may fairly be taken as approximately representing the increase in the 1 cent copper coins in circulation in Shanghai since the end of 1918. In certain parts of China, the additions to the coinage appear to have been greater because of the introduction of 2 cent coins as well as fresh issues of 1 cent coins. In 1915 (in my article in the British Chamber of Commerce Journal) I estimated the number of 1 cent coins then in circulation in China at 22,000,000,000. From the foregoing data, it is evident that, during 1919 and 1920, the additional issues must have amounted to at least 12 per cent. of this figure, equal to 2,640,000,000 copper coins.

MINTING PROFITS.

Mr. McColl goes on to point to the motive—minting profits—and in a table, giving prices of metals used, labour required, etc., shows that the intrinsic value of the 1 cent copper piece is .699 of its face value. The intrinsic value of the 2 cent piece, now minted at Hankow, is 1.233 cents. The circulating rate of the 1 cent piece is 143 to the dollar (an average taken over several cities), and of the 2 cent piece 162.35 (at Hankow).

The minting profit on 2,640,000,000 copper cents at the rate for 1 cent coins according to this table would be \$3,060,000. At the present production costs (in silver) the 1 cent coins would have to depreciate to 171.5 cents to the dollar and the 2 cent coins to 204.99 cents to the dollar before minting profits would disappear.

The effect of the introduction of all this additional coinage, on

the top of an already superabundant circulation, has been to increase the ratio of depreciation. The steady increase in the depreciation of copper coins in Shanghai during the past two years is shown by the fact that in January, 1919, the number of 1 cent coins to the dollar was 132.12, while in December, 1920, it had risen to 141.36.

TRAMWAY CO.'S LOSSES.

The losses of the Shanghai Tramways (Foreign Settlement) in converting its revenue in depreciated subsidiary coinage into dollars have been:—

	\$	Percentage
1908*	50,812	= 14.77
1909	116,089	= 24.01
1910	155,184	= 24.91
1911	168,848	= 22.93
1912	239,375	= 24.55
1913	258,810	= 23.19
1914	316,670	= 26.04
1915	362,368	= 28.58
1916	387,510	= 26.72
1917	354,776	= 23.26
1918	390,377	= 23.95
1919	521,385	= 26.21
1920	658,572	= 27.93

Total... \$3,980,776

Month of December, 1920, 29.31 per cent.

*From March 5.

In pointing out that the whole country is affected by this depreciation, Mr. McColl draws attention to the fact that Hankow, adjacent to an active mint, shows the heaviest depreciation of all. In three ways the deplorable state of the copper currency has been aggravated during the past two years, viz: (1) Reduction in weight and metal value of the coins: (2) Introduction of 2 cent coins (of a weight and metal value less than twice that of a 1 cent coin): (3) Increase in the total number of coins in circulation. The mints are continuing to make matter worse. Reduction in intrinsic value and additional issues of coins are merely subtle ways of robbing the Chinese people and all who use copper coins.

TOKEN COINS.

In a country of such incomplete and inefficient administration as China it is obvious that any reduction in the intrinsic value of coins is dangerous from the point of view of encouraging counterfeiting. These 1 and 2 cent coins are now unquestionably "token" coins and the law so describes them. The fundamental requisite of a "token" coin is obviously the Government's guarantee of its face value. It means that Government banks and institutions ought always to accept the coins at 100 to the dollar. This basic essential of a "token" coinage is completely ignored by the Chinese Government. It issues "token" coins as if they were *ad valorem* coins containing their own protection. Coins are issued by the Chinese mints not to meet any trade or currency requirements, but solely for the sake of minting profits. As a commodity thrown on the market, without any protective measures or

guarantee, the coins are left to find their respective circulating rates according to their different metal values and to supply and demand. The heavy and growing depreciation is evidence of the extent to which the supply exceeds the demand.

THE REQUIREMENTS.

The immediate requirement is the definite stoppage of the minting of all copper coins. To ensure discontinuance of minting, the importation of copper discs for the manufacture of coins would probably have to be prohibited and a suitable tax imposed on the importation of copper not in manufactured forms.

As soon as possible, a sound currency scheme, approved by foreign experts, should be planned for early execution under their supervision, with the subsidiary coinage guaranteed at 100 cents to a standard dollar.

A sound currency would not by itself cure China's troubles, but remedial efforts in other directions would tend to be nullified without a sound currency. The reform of the currency is a necessary preliminary to many other reforms and to the development of the country in the interests of China and the rest of the world.

COUNTERFEIT Bank of Koreans 50 sen notes, reported to have been made by the Bolsheviks, are circulating in large quantities in Siberia and Chientao. Recently a Chinese bought 79 yen worth of cotton goods at a Korean's shop in Hungchun, paying in counterfeit notes. He was arrested by the Japanese military and it was discovered that he had bought the counterfeit notes, amounting to several hundred yen, at the rate of 100 yen counterfeit for 40 yen genuine, from a Korean at Vladivostok.



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SHANGHAI REVISITED

Mr. J. O. P. Bland on a New Conception of Chinese Greatness
—Our Transition from Ancient to Modern—The
Sanctuary of the French Settlement

Few of our readers need to be introduced to Mr. J. O. P. Bland, a one time secretary of the Shanghai Municipal Council, and the author of the most interesting books on China yet written. In the last issue of the "National Review" Mr. Bland records his impressions of a recent visit to Shanghai with wonderful skill.

To return to the East after an absence of years is to recover something of the freshness and keenness of first impressions, enhanced by an improved sense of proportion and relative values. After long residence in China, one comes, I think, to take for granted many beautiful and soul-satisfying things. Familiarity, and the cares that infest the day, combine to dim one's sense of the philosophic dignity inherent in all the East's conception of life and death and in its time-defying institutions. The thorns that spring up conceal from us the splendid proportions, the enduring strength of that which, say what we will, is by far the noblest monument of human wisdom that has come down to us from the wreck-strewn past. Amidst the clamour of the money-changers and the nostrum-vendors of the Treaty Ports, where East and West alike forget the things that matter in their eager pursuit of gain, one often loses sight of the profound significance of China's moral civilization. Amidst the froth and foam of the breakers, we forget the deep unruffled spaces of the sea. And because of our restlessness and the haunting memory of our Western birth-right, we often depreciate, when we live amongst them, the thoughts and ways of these old-world children of the East.

NEW LIGHT ON CHINA'S INERTIA.

But when one has left China behind for some years and dwelt in the market-places of the West's triumphant civilization, when one has seen that civilization reduced to a welter of scientific slaughter and red ruin, we begin to perceive, far more clearly than before, the value of that system of moral philosophy which is the very breath of life to the Chinese, and which has preserved this ancient race, if not from attack, at least from disruption. One is, then, perforce compelled to face the question whether, as the world stands to-day, it is not an impertinence and a waste of time for us to continue to urge the Chinese to forsake the teachings of their Sages and to believe in the moral superiority of a system which ends in Armageddon. When one returns to China and finds this patient people, a quarter of the

earth's inhabitants, pursuing its steadfast way, along the lines prescribed by centuries of experience and immemorial tradition, and achieving, in spite of new perplexities and perils, a degree of stability which Europe may well envy, one comes to regard the East's non-militant type of civilization in a new light and its results in clearer perspective.

There can be, I think, no escape from the conclusion that, in the broad conception of life and in the social and political systems which arise out of that conception, "East is East and West is West, and never the twain shall meet." Between the creative ideas of these two worlds there lies a gulf of elemental difference, which neither Time nor any tide in the affairs of men can bridge. Considering Asia and its philosophy as a whole, disregarding its intellectual half-breeds (those brilliant dragon-flies of a brief day, that dart erratically across the depths of national life), we may confidently ascribe this difference to the permanent hold which the patriarchal family system of morals and politics has acquired over the race-mind of the East, and to the peculiar virtues and defects produced in the masses by that system. But let the fundamental causes of that difference be what they may, deep buried in the past, its general result has been to produce in the Asiatic mind a deep reverence for the absolute and the universal, which revolts instinctively from the materialism of the West. *Ex Oriente lux.*

INDIVIDUAL VERSUS COMMUNITY.

It is not for nothing that from the East has come every religion which has elevated and comforted the hearts of men, for the East has always held firmly to the belief that the means of existence are less important than its ends. The masses of the people in China and Japan are unconsciously nearer to the spirit of the Sermon on the Mount than many of the Christian communities in Europe and America which subscribe to send missionaries to the East. Can anyone deny that the forceful individualism upon which are based the social progress and material prosperity of Europe and America is morally inferior to the family system of Asia, in which the interests of the individual are sacrificed to those of the community?

It is the birthright and the instinct of the Anglo-Saxon to respect an active self-helping race and to despise the passive non-resister; from the Asiatic point of view, it is not only a text but an absolute truth that the meek shall inherit the earth. Your Chinese educated in Missions may wear a

top-hat and profess to admire our many inventions, but the attitude of the East as a whole towards our material civilization is just as disdainful to-day as it was in the days of the Great Mogul. As for me, returning to the East from lands wherein all our triumphs of mechanical ingenuity have been turned to purposes of manslaughter, I find myself more than ever compelled to accept and respect the Oriental conception of life—that attitude, founded on the wisdom of the ancients, which has given to their form of civilization a stability and harmony such as our modern world has never known. The philosophy of the Chinese is the birthright, not of an intellectual elite (as with us) but of the race; it has taught them that even wealth is only a means to a rational end, that the secret of human happiness lies rather in being than in doing, and that, in this unsubstantial pageant of illusions, the spirit is more than the flesh. Thus regarded, all the fitful fever of Europe's social system, all the triumphs of our industrial organization, are but the dead-sea fruits of purblind error. From the Eastern point of view,

The world is too much with us; late and soon,
Getting and spending, we lay waste our power;

and a civilization which leaves neither time nor place for meditation stands, by that very fact, condemned. Despite the burden of physical suffering, the hunger and the squalor imposed upon countless millions of Asiatics by their passivity, and by the intensity of the struggle for survival, accentuated by their procreative recklessness, I hold that the East is wiser and better than the West. I believe that the social institutions which have grown out of the Chinese philosophy are nearer to the truth, and therefore morally superior to our own; and believing this, I ask myself upon what grounds, and to what purpose, do we persist in endeavouring to impose upon them not only our mechanical inventions but our political panaceas and our conflicting creeds?

AND LIKE WIND WE GO.

Shanghai inevitably suggests some such train of thought, because here, within the narrow boundaries of the Treaty Port, East and West have met on neutral ground and held close converse together for 70 years; yet in all things that are essential to human intercourse they remain worlds apart. Some 800,000 Chinese have their being within the borders of the Model Settlement, living for and on the trade which has brought together 20,000 white men and Japanese at the Yangtze's great distributing centre; a large proportion of these Chinese are humble workers, artisans and coolies from Kiangpei, who come in their thousands to eat of the crumbs that fall from the rich man's table. All around and about

the lordly mansions of the foreign trader that line the banks of the Huangpu, and within a stone's-throw of the splendid villas of the suburbs, the tide of native life flows on, practically untouched in its ancestral ways by all the words and works of the stranger.

If, by some miracle, every foreigner could be suddenly transported from China to-morrow, their going would have no more effect upon the inner life of this people than a tree feels when the birds leave its branches. They would pass, like other unaccountable phenomena, and leave not a rack behind. Over the place where they had been, the tide of the nation's life would flow, unchanging and unchanged, and soon their very memory would be forgotten. In the back streets of the Settlements at Shanghai, the spiritual aloofness of the Chinese race impresses itself just as forcibly as in the remotest city of the interior.

THE TEMPERED SOUL OF CHINA.

But there is something which impresses itself even more than this aloofness of the mind of the East upon the traveller who returns to China after an absence of years, and that is the charm (almost biblical in its old-world quality) which lies in the philosophic serenity, the sterling faithfulness and the sober efficiency of the race. Dynasties may pass, the legions thunder by, but in the finely tempered soul of this people these things abide, and their savour is a fragrance of which the heirs of all the ages know nothing. Where, in all our world made safe for Democracy, will you find anything to compare with the equal-minded fortitude, the kindness, the almost dog-like fidelity of the Chinese, those simple virtues, fruits of the Sages' ancient tree of Knowledge, which have made him the most lovable, and perhaps the most admirable, of human beings?

Fully to appreciate the character of humanity's primordial elder brother, one must have left the East awhile, gone back to the restless sources of our "Western learning," heard Bolshevism howling at the gates, and realized the cumulative effects of our creed of individualism upon the mind of the masses. Thereafter, China, with all its revolutions and economic distress, seems like a weather-beaten rock of sense and stability in a world of unrest, and the greetings of one's old friends (teachers, traders and servants) come like some strain of homely music, half-forgotten. What have we to offer to the Chinese that shall serve them better than the virtues that are theirs? Shall we lure them from their fields to our factories, for the speeding up of trade? With Christian Europe in the melting-pot, shall we tell them that Christianity will cure the thousand natural ills that flesh is heir to? No doubt but that we shall do these things, and continue to call them progress; but let us not hope, in the doing of them,

to convince the East of our moral or intellectual superiority.

A PELICAN IN THE WILDERNESS.

To return to the places where the best years of one's life have been spent, to be a transient spectator where once one played even a small part upon the stage, must always be a heart-stirring adventure, fraught with a gentle melancholy of retrospection, half pleasure and half pain. The pain predominates when, amidst the whispering ghosts of the years that are gone, one seeks in vain for the old familiar places, where only a few surviving landmarks greet one like old friends in a strange land.

The changes which the hand of man has wrought in and about the Foreign Settlements of Shanghai during the past ten years have been as many and as great as those of any mushroom Eldorado of the New World, so that the revenant in search of old haunts wanders here "like a pelican in the wilderness." On all sides the triumphs of commerce-in-the-grand-manner confront him, imposing manifestations and appliances of noise and haste to the business of barter, more suggestive of Chicago than of the easygoing Shanghai of bygone days. It is as if Aladdin had persuaded every citizen to change his old lamps for new, his risha, for a motor-car, and henceforth to live in a fever of transatlantic hustle and bustle. All over the East the traveller of to-day will find portents and and proofs of a world of change, but nowhere such a transfiguration, such breathless haste and hunger for new things, such a clean sweep of old signposts, as in the foreign community of Shanghai. Tientsin and Canton, for all their new traffics and discoveries, still preserve the essential features of their youth. Yokohama, by comparison, stands unchanged and rooted in her ancient ways.

THE PLOTTERS' EL DORADO.

The causes of Yokohama's comparative immutability and of Shanghai's swift-moving development lie so obviously in the conditions under which the Western trader exists in Japan and China respectively, that they call for little explanation. Both these Treaty Ports are, of their origin, exotic growths, excrescences grafted by force of arms upon the native tree of trade. Japan, being wise in her generation, and having diligently acquired the Western science of man-killing by machinery, has thrown off the shackles of extra-territoriality; and the stranger within her gates has never been quite comfortable since. But for China, with her patriarchal system and atavistic resistance to change, such an effort was impossible, and with the passing years, as her weakness increased with the crafts and assaults of the earth-hungry Powers, Shanghai has become not only the stronghold of the extra-territorialized trader, but the favourite residence and safety-vault of Chinese officials *en retraite*.

and a very Cave of Adullam for political refugees and plotters of every description. Under such conditions, it was inevitable that the city should wax fat and kick; that the little self-governing community of foreign merchants, exempt from all laws and taxation save those of their own making and their Taiping-days Charter, should grow into a great Free Town, richer by far than any of the Hanseatic League.

The Shanghai of to-day is, in fact, a little State, an *imperium in imperio*, administered by the Council elected by the foreign landrenters, in which close upon a million Chinese enjoy the benefits of law and order (but no votes) in return for a modest rate of taxation. All the nations and kindreds of the earth have foregathered here, with 15 Consuls flying 15 flags, and each takes its part, *tant bien que mal*, in the affairs of the Settlement. It is a League of Nations, *in parvo*, which has stood the test of time, building up its administration by gradual process of precedents, and held together by the effective bond of a common interest in the development and protection of trade. As an object-lesson of the federation of the world on a small scale, the Model Settlement of Shanghai deserves more attention than it has yet received from political economists. When that object-lesson is studied, it will be observed that the foundations, upon which the success of the experiment has rested, differ in one very important respect from those upon which Mr. President Wilson and Lord Robert Cecil have proposed to build their League of Nations.

JAPAN'S AMBITIONS.

The success of international co-operation at Shanghai has been brought about by the fact that, because the British landrenters have always been in a considerable majority, the control of the administration has been automatically vested in British hands; the little State has thus enjoyed the benefits of a continuous policy and a recognized directing authority. If the day ever comes—and the Japanese are moving heaven and earth to attain it—when the control of the administration becomes a bone of contention between seriously divided national factions, the doom of the Model Settlement is sealed. The ideal of the League of Nations, based on a community of sentiment, may be admirable in theory, but its successful application involves the necessity of recognition by all concerned of a common interest and an authoritative executive. It is on the rock of imaginary equal rights that the good ship Utopia goes to pieces.

Meanwhile Shanghai, having 1,100 British votes on its landrenters' list, as against 300 Japanese, 230 Americans and 150 Germans, still steers its prosperous thunder of a world at war or the clouds of political strife that gather on the near horizon. How prosperous that course has been since 1913, he who runs, may see;

evidence of wealth, increasing and prolific, abounds on every side, from the teeming activity of wharves, warehouses and factories to the Capuan villas of the Bubbling Well.

OUR POMPS AND VANITIES.

And the ease with which money has been made, both by merchants and mandarins, is reflected in the monstrous cost of living and in a degree of luxury in some respects unequalled either in New York or Buenos Aires. I have seen something of the stupendous wealth of both these cities during and since the war; I have walked their streets and dwelt in their hotels, wondering, like a poor relation, at the princeliness of their pomps and vanities, the lavishness of their resplendent lives; but in the matter of mellow creature comforts, of savoury fleshpots deftly served, no Cræsus of America, North or South, can ever hope to attain to the comfortable heights and depths that Shanghai takes for granted, because not all his wealth can buy the swift, soft-footed service, the ubiquitous efficiency, of the Chinese house-boy, gardener or cook. And neither Fifth Avenue nor the Calle Florida is in the habit of treating the dollar with quite the same splendid insouciance as Shanghai's Nanking Road. When, last year, the exchange of the Mexican stood at about six shillings, Shanghai spent it in the same cheerful spirit as when it was worth two. Converted into sterling, salaries and prices in the gorgeous East verged on the ludicrous and, for the passing stranger, on the disastrous. To pay the equivalent of £3 a day for the meagrest of hotel accommodation, 24s. an hour for the hire of a Ford car, 4s. 6d. for having one's hair cut and 1s. 2d. for the daily paper is to fill one with something more than respect for the Orient.

It was, of course, to be expected that with the development of railways opening up the interior, strategic trade centres like Shanghai and Hankow would grow and flourish exceedingly. But something more than an ordinary expansion of commerce was needed to produce the exuberant prosperity and modernity of present-day Shanghai. The vast profits of five years of war trade, practically untaxed, account for a good deal, and the hoarded wealth brought into the safe refuge of the Settlement by retired Chinese and Manchurian officials since the upheaval of the Revolution brought much new grist to the local mills of trade. The results, in any case, are astonishing, and not the least remarkable feature of the swiftly changing scene is the American air of hustle and bustle which has come to prevail in this most cosmopolitan of all communities. The teeming tide of life which flowed along the Maloo ten years ago was a gently meandering stream compared with the turbulent torrent of to-day.

STUDENTS' STAMPING GROUNDS.

Looking back on the even tenor of existence in those days, the

present kaleidoscopic activities of the community seem incredibly remote from their serenity; it is the different between a vicar's garden party and a race meeting. During and since the war there has been, naturally enough, a new and by no means inconsiderable invasion of China by American firms and American ideas; also, the increasing number of Chinese students educated in the States was bound to produce its first and most conspicuous effects in the Settlements, which have ever been Young China's headquarters and chief stamping-ground. Nevertheless, compared to the whole foreign community, the number of Americans in Shanghai, missionaries included, has not been enough to leaven the whole lump. Rather it would seem that similar economic conditions have produced similar results in Shanghai and Chicago. The gods have dropped the bait of opportunity into the pool of enterprise, and the fishes dart hither in a restless commotion of competition.

Here and there, above the tumultuous tide of change, a few old landmarks stand out and bring to mind the easy-going past—the Cathedral and the Custom House, the Lyceum Theatre and Country Club, the Joss-house at the Bubbling Well, the goodly messuage of the British Consulate, and the Racecourse (once on the outskirts, now at the very heart of the Settlement), a perennial monument to the foresight of the first City Fathers. Even on the Bund, amidst the turmoil of tramcars, motors and lorries, there are sights and sounds that recall the Shanghai of early days: the mustering of brokers' victorias at the Bank, owners, mafios and ponies just as they were years and years ago, and all serenely unconscious of being an anachronism; the rhythmic chant of swift-moving coolies unloading cargo at the jetties, the never-ceasing song of native labour; wheelbarrow coolies staggering under their monstrous burdens.

THE COMPRADORE'S ROLLS-ROYCE.

And on the river, the old familiar vision of junks and sampans innumerable, blue sails and brown, and twirling yuloh blades, the moving homes of men whose lives are as the lives of their forefathers were in the old time before them, and as the lives of their sons will be, when we are all forgotten.

These glimpses and voices from the dense background of purely native life, these swift intimations of its pitiless struggle for sheer survival, seem to me full of a deeper significance than all the glamour and glitter of Shanghai's exotic modernity. As I watch the human pageant, the social activities of Mrs. Compradore Wang, driving in her Rolls-Royce to her villa in the western district, or those of Mrs. Rosenkrantz, who takes her to the play at the Lyceum, count for less than these half-naked coolies singing at their work. For these ladies are at best but transient phenomena, froth on the crest of a wave; but the

humble sons of Han are as they have been since the days of Babylon, and as they will be when Europe's present frontiers are wiped out, a great tide of the ocean of human life, mysterious and profound.

When one reflects upon the present state and probable future of industrialism in Europe and America, the antlike capacity of the Chinese for monotonous labour assumes a new significance. Not only does it explain most of the rapid growth of Shanghai, but it brings before us, much nearer than of old, the vision of the only real Yellow Peril, the competitive results of this mass of unsophisticated, cheap labour upon countless workshops and factories overseas. Here, before our eyes, are the beginnings of a new phase and new consequences of economic pressure, unmistakable evidences of the fact that Capital is beginning to perceive the value of this vast reservoir of efficient, easily contented workers, and is making ready to use it. Already captains of industry—Americans, British, Germans, Japanese (especially Japanese) are hastening to map out the ground, selecting coigns of vantage all over the country for the organization and application of all this dynamic energy to the development of manufactures; and this assuredly is only the thin end of a wedge which must eventually move the whole fabric of international trade.

Assuming that industrial enterprise can be organized in China under conditions which shall secure the co-operation of Chinese capital and the support of Chinese officialdom, it will be as impossible for any European or American industry to face its competition in any open market as it is for the White countries to admit Asiatic immigration.

NOT ONLY THE FOREIGNER.

It is not only the foreigner who perceives the possibilities of the situation brought about in the East by the war of Labour against Capital in the West; the Chinese are fully alive to them. They are also well aware of the fact that, so long as the foreigner's factories are confined within the narrow limits of the Treaty Ports, until he can secure the free use of land and labour in close proximity to the chief sources of raw materials, there can be no rapid development of enterprise on the grand scale of which the Americans talk. As in the past, they will undoubtedly resist, with all the effective weight of their inertia and powers of obstruction, any attempt by the foreigner to exploit China's raw materials and cheap labour for his own exclusive benefit. But there appears to be a very definite disposition in their high places to entertain proposals for co-operative enterprise, of a kind which will give Chinese officialdom an equal share of profits and a fair share of "face," in return for the privilege of trading and manufacturing rights in the interior. Unless the present omens are misleading, we are likely to hear a good deal

in the near future of Anglo-Chinese joint enterprise.

THE CHINA FOR CHINESE PARTY.

There exists a certain group of Cantonese intransigents, it is true, who proclaim the readiness and the ability of the Chinese to handle highly organized industrial business without the help of foreign capital or foreign technical experts, and who therefore denounce the co-operative idea. They cite the success of purely Chinese companies, such as the Nanyang Tobacco Company or Wing On's new department stores, as evidence in support of their contention, and they point to the great businesses that have been built up by Chinese merchant princes in Hongkong and Java, in the Straits and the South Seas. The question thus raised is extremely interesting and a little delicate. It is evident that if, without assistance, the Chinese can provide efficient and reliable administration for the development of native industries, they can eat up their competitors at their leisure, and be perfectly justified in so doing. In that case, the *raison d'être* of half the Europeans in China would cease to exist, and the Treaty Ports would soon become the diminished homes of petty commission agents and disgruntled shippers.

But is it possible? Of the intelligence and business capacity of the Chinese merchant there can be no question; yet the fact remains that there has never been a case in China of a public company successfully handled by Chinese for Chinese. There is all the difference in the world between a Chinese merchant conducting his personal or family business and the same man acting as director of a railway or mining company; the great names made by Chinese merchant adventurers in the South have always been associated with family concerns, and the same is generally true of modern enterprises, such as Wing On's, where the initiative comes from Chinese educated abroad. There is also a wide difference between the position of a Chinese business conducted in a British Colony, or even in the No Man's Land of a Treaty Port, and one which has to work out its own salvation in some inland province of China, exposed to the rapacity of local officials and the bigoted conservatism of the gentry.

When all is said and done, the fact remains that, although there is probably more hoarded wealth in China to-day than ever before, none of its owners—be they merchants or mandarins—display any inclination to invest it either in Government loans or in purely Chinese companies under official auspices. At the same time, many of the richest and ablest men in the country are prepared to put money into co-operative enterprises with financial control vested in the foreigner. Money talks.

THE INTELLECTUAL HALF-BREED.

Anyone who is trying to see the problems of the Far East as a whole, to form a just estimate of

the various forces at work beneath the surface and the probable resultant of their actions and reactions, can hardly fail to be impressed by the intellectual and spiritual detachment of the foreign community of Shanghai from all things Chinese, except those which directly affect the commercial outlook. Even allowing for the fact that here they have no abiding city, there is something very striking in the earnestness of their concentration on purely local affairs, their complete absorption in trade and sport, their cheerful indifference to the language, literature and institutions of the native-born.

Even more remarkable than this aloofness of the foreign colony is the exotic quality of Young China's political and intellectual activities, always manifested to the sound of trumpets and drums in the Tom Tiddler's Ground of the Model Settlement. They loom very large in the world's Press, these activities of the semi-Europeanized product of our Mission schools and Universities overseas, and their reverberating rhetoric evokes many weird echoes in distant lands; nevertheless, their voice is that of the intellectual half-breed, of a class which has all the qualities and all the defects of the hybrid, but which is without real roots, either in China or in Europe. It is a class which, though in some instances its intentions have been excellent, has proved itself to be utterly incapable of originating or directing any practical policy for the good of China.

The foreign merchant at Shanghai, whose contact with Chinese affairs is usually limited to half an hour's chat with his semi-denationalized compradore, may be forgiven for mistaking the cackle of these highly vocal young gentlemen for the murmur of the Chinese world. It is also probably true that the foreign community's collective vanity is rather tickled by appearing before the world as godfather to a movement in which many good, earnest men have discerned the makings of a new heaven and a new earth.

A STRANGE DELUSION.

As regards the fundamental question of the nation's fitness for representative government, despite the cumulative evidence of the eight years which have passed since the proclamation of the Republic, the delusion still seems to prevail, even amongst Shanghai's sober business men, that, with the passing of the monarchy, a sudden and miraculous change has taken place in the structural character of the Chinese people, and that the passive non-resisting type is a thing of the past. In spite of the obvious fact that the so-called "parliamentarians" have reduced the country, politically speaking, to the level of Mexico or Venezuela, all sorts and conditions of men are ready to assure you, not only at their dinner-tables but in public meetings assembled, that the Chinese of to-day are a totally

different people from those of the last generation; that "things are moving very fast, sir, and we must keep abreast of the times." They will ask you to observe the movement for the emancipation of women, the number and activity of political associations in their midst; the increasing signs of organization amongst certain sections of Chinese labour, and many other proofs and portents of "progress."

It is true that, for the moment, one does not hear quite so much as one did in 1912 of the regenerative force of Parliamentary procedure at Peking, or the moral effect of the abolition of opium, because, with three rival Parliaments contesting the field and opium more plentiful than ever before, it is difficult for the most earnest of visionaries to make the facts of the situation square with the theory of fundamental change. But the vague belief in the increasing political consciousness of the Chinese masses persists nevertheless, together with a slipshod profession of the fashionable faith in the miraculous benefits which China may expect to derive from "Democracy."

HYSTERIA VERSUS HISTORY

I find it hard to account for the persistence of these delusions amongst any but vocational idealists. That the missionaries and school-teachers who are largely responsible for Young China's political activities and aspirations should still hope to gather rare and refreshing fruit from the tree of their own planting is natural enough. It is in the nature of the rhapsodist to place his hopes for to-morrow above the experience of a thousand yesterdays, and to attach more importance to the form of a government than to the character of the men who claim to administer it. But the prevalence of this kind of plausible optimism in a business community which, with regard to its own affairs, can never afford to ignore the experience of yesterday, is chiefly due, I think, to the fact that blind faith in "Democracy," as a cure for all human ills, has become a fashionable shibboleth all the world over, and this by reason of intellectual laziness; also, because the catchwords of our latter-day demagogues, their appeal and the secret of their success, are based on sentiment rather than on sense and on hysteria rather than on history.

At Shanghai, in particular, the teachings of history have carried even less weight than elsewhere, because the eloquence and fervour with which Young China proclaimed its discovery of Utopia, to the thumping of innumerable tubs, created a clamour and a series of moving pictures sufficient to disturb most minds and to prevent them from inquiring whether this Utopia was the sort of place in which the Chinese people, as a whole, might find themselves at home. And yet, for those who amidst the tumult and the shouting found time to reflect, who remembered the millions of patient, politically unconscious toilers that make the

real China, it must always have been apparent that these "Western-learning" Intellectuals and their "emancipated" women were no more representative of the nation than, shall we say, the Cantonese communities of Singapore or California.

FEARFULLY ARRAYED.

And they must have had their doubts also as to the wisdom of those catholic liberties of the Foreign Settlements—especially on the French side—which permit conspirators, malcontents and political refugees of every kind to hatch their plots and load their bombs with impunity. These gentry use the safe shelter of the municipality for their own sordid ends, and by means of the local vernacular Press attain to a degree of importance which otherwise they could never have achieved. The evil results of this are twofold: firstly, that the profession of political agitator has been made attractively safe; and secondly, that throughout the Treaty Ports there prevails an exaggerated estimate of Young China's political influence and regenerative ideas.

There is something pathetically suggestive of the intellectual disorder of Young China, and of its inability to grasp the essential spirit of Western civilization, in the fearful and wonderful garments worn by its emancipated sisters, cousins and aunts, not to mention those of Delilah and Aspasia, with whom native traditions of decorum naturally count for less than the desire to be conspicuous. The clothes and manners affected by Chinese women of the respectable classes in Shanghai to-day are enough to justify an old-time resident in the belief that Confucius, filial piety and the patriarchal system have gone with the monarchy into limbo; that the days of the polygamist, with his docile, secluded women, are done; and that female suffrage is in sight. But, as a matter of fact, these fantastically appressed creatures are a purely local and transient manifestation, the product of an abnormal and exotic environment, neither flesh, fish, fowl nor good red herring. Their hybrid garments and jaunty assumption of foreign customs and manners merely typify the inevitable confusion and unrest of this No Man's Land 'twixt East and West.

SHE EVEN JAZZES.

Take one of these quaint little monsters, with her tam-o'-shanter cap, her woollen muffler, short silk trousers, spats and high-heeled boots, and put her down in any city of the interior; if she did not speedily run for cover, she would most assuredly be either arrested or mobbed. Here in Shanghai she may ignore the Sacred Edict with impunity: she can indulge in courtship, and even in marriage, à l'Américaine; she may join, unchaperoned, in the afternoon parade of fashion on the Nanking Road; she may take part in political demonstrations and even address public meetings: but she does

these things because she is a product of Shanghai, and Shanghai is not China.

In certain ultra-modern circles, led by ruffling blades fresh from American Universities Chinese ladies have even been known to snatch a fearful joy from turkey-trotting to the sounds of jazz, and thereby violating all Oriental ideas of female propriety. Greatly daring, one or two of them have even done it in Peking, and I observe that Sir John Jordan, talking to a London reporter, has cited the fact as proof of China's remarkable progress. As for that enterprising reporter, he must, I think, have caught Sir John unawares, for none knows better than that wise and kindly man that the race-mind of the Chinese hates and fears, more than all else, those encroachments of the West which threaten its instinctive moralities and ancestral proprieties. *Persicos odi, puer, apparatus.*

REPRESENTATION ON THE COUNCIL.

During the period of my visit to Shanghai, the community, native and foreign, was much exercised over a question which has frequently vexed it in recent years, namely, the right of the Chinese taxpayers to representation on the Municipal Council—in other words, to a share in the direct government of the Settlement Young China's fervour, excitement and eloquence, and its skilful use of the machinery of intimidation in dealing with the timid shop-keeping class, presented on this occasion no new features. There were the usual telegrams in all directions, the usual manifestos by all sorts of associations, real and imaginary, the usual passionate assertion of China's sovereign rights, accompanied by threats of strikes and personal denunciations. But as an example of windy agitation on a trackless sea of sentiment, there was something very significant, not only in Young China's handling of the matter, but in the sympathetic, not to say respectful, reception accorded to their views by officials and influential members of the foreign community.

The Chinese claim to representation based on elementary justice is morally unanswerable; to deny it is morally impossible, since nine-tenths of the Settlement's revenues are collected from Chinese ratepayers. Unfortunately, however, the existence of the Settlement itself is equally indefensible on broad grounds of justice. It was originally established, and has ever since been maintained, by the law of the stronger, and because Chinese methods of administration could never provide the foreign trader with anything like security for life and property. For that matter, the whole principle of extraterritoriality can only be defended on grounds of political expediency, in themselves unjust. But if extraterritoriality goes, the Foreign Settlement goes also, not only as an object-lesson in efficient administration, but as a sanctuary for

Chinese partisans and plotters of the losing side and a safe hiding-place for the wealth of prudent mandarins.

A CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

The most astonishing thing about this particular agitation was that the excitable students with whom it originated should have been supported by the sober-headed Guilds and Chambers of Commerce, for these would be the very first to suffer from the introduction of mandarin methods in municipal affairs: but moral courage in the face of noisy intimidation has never been a characteristic of the Chinese merchant. Equally astonishing, from the transient spectator's point of view, was the failure of the foreign community's representatives to put Young China firmly in its place; for it should have been self-evident that a claim to give the Chinese seats on the Council, as a matter of equity and based on their numerical strength, would give them, on the same grounds, a perfect right to absolute control.

The obvious course, whereby alone the just claims of the Chinese could be reconciled with the facts of the situation (a course which should have been adopted when the Guilds proposed it in 1906), is for the foreign community to recognize and encourage a Chinese Consultative Committee, elected as the Chinese ratepayers may think fit; to take its advice, whenever feasible, in matters affecting purely Chinese interests, and to give all possible publicity to its representations. The essential need of the situation is machinery for the ventilation of the bona-fide grievances of the law-abiding Chinese community. Such grievances undoubtedly exist, but the professional agitator who plies his noisome trade under the protection of the municipality should be forcibly reminded that these grievances are as gossamer on the summer breeze as compared with the burdens borne by those who dwell in Chinese cities—"whose children are far from safety, whose harvest the hungry eateth up, and the robber swalloweth up their substance."

THE DANGERS OF ASYLUM.

From the point of view of the Chinese Government (if ever it reaches a state of coherence such as shall enable it to maintain one), the protection which the self-governing Settlements of the Treaty Ports afford to political refugees and conspirators is likely to present a much more serious problem. The asylum found by the "Provisional Government of the Republic of Korea" in the French Settlement at Shanghai constitutes a precedent which might easily develop along lines fraught with real danger to the destinies of the Model Settlement. The path of wisdom for the City Fathers, looking to the future, must lie in barring all but purely local politics and in preventing the Settlement from becoming an Alsatia and a stamping-ground for wild asses.

J. O. P. BLAND.

COMMERCE & FINANCE

Money and Exchange

Shanghai, Jan. 28.

Sovereigns, Bank's buying rate
@ 3/9=Tls. 5.33 @ 71.8=\$7.43
Gold Dollars, Bank's buying rate
@ 73½=Tls. 1.37 @ 71.8=\$1.90
Mex. Dollars, market rate 71.5375
Native Interest 04
Copper Cash 198,000

Bar Silver 33½
Bank rate of discount 7%
Proportion reserve to liabilities 13%
Paris on London Frs. 54
New York on London G.\$3.88½

OPENING AND CLOSING BANK RATES.

ON LONDON—		¶ Tael
Tel. transfer	3/9	3/6
Demand	3/9½	3/6½
Credit 4 m/s.	4/0	3/9
Credit 6 m/s.	4/1½	3/10½
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	4/0½	3/9½
ON NEW YORK—		
Tel. transfer	73	68
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	80½	75½
ON PARIS—		
Demand	1018	948
Docy. Bills, 4 m/s.	1115	1045
ON INDIA—		
Demand	257½	240½
ON HONGKONG—		
Demand	74½	77
ON YOKOHAMA—		
Demand	68½	71
ON BATAVIA—		
Demand	213½	199
ON SINGAPORE—		
Demand	61½	66

CUSTOMS EXCHANGE RATES FOR JANUARY.

Hk. Tl. 4.33 @ 4.1½	£1
" 1 @ 12.53	Francs 13.96
" 1.22 @ 73½	Gold \$1
" 1 @ 64½	Yen 1.72
" 1 @ 287½	Rupees 3.20
" 1 @ 1.50	Mex. \$1.50
Roubles no quotation.	

Week's Exchange Notes

Jan. 29.

At the close of business on Thursday the stock of silver in Shanghai comprised Tls. 40,913,000 and \$27,050,000, including Tls. 683,000 in silver bars. These figures include Tls. 8,330,000 and \$13,470,000 in Chinese banks, in which there were no bars.

Bar Silver.—Arrivals were:—
530 bars from London.

Sycee.—There were no movements of Sycee during the week.

Mexican \$3 lakhs from the interior were converted into Sycee.

Dollars.—Arrivals were:—

\$1,110,000 from Nanking.	
400,000 " River Ports.	
150,000 " Hankow.	
150,000 " Anhui.	
100,000 " Ningpo.	
40,000 " Soochow.	

\$1,980,000

Shipments were:—

\$700,000 to Hongkong.
150,000 " Changchun.
150,000 " Amoy.
120,000 " Chefoo.

\$1,120,000

SILVER.

Following the steady improvement in the London/New York cross rate, silver, with the exception of one or two slight spasms of firmness, has been on the downward grade, the drop being more marked for forward delivery than for spot, last evening's price being 39½d. ready and 38½d. forward, showing a decline of 1d. and 2½d. respectively during the week. The American price records only a slight fluctuation, the latest advices giving New York price on 27th instant as 67½ cents as against 67½ cents, the price for delivery in San Francisco a week ago. At present there appears to be no prospect of any genuine demand from China.

EXCHANGE.

The market has become a very narrow one and there is very little genuine mercantile business doing. The small premium previously offered has been dwindling and at times is almost non-existent. Rates on Friday dropped from 3/9d. to 3/6d., the closing quotation. At the higher levels there was a good demand for T.T., but no cover offering in the shape of export paper.

The Franc Rising

Paris, Jan. 24.

A marked improvement in the exchange value of the franc has been a conspicuous feature on the Bourse during the last few days. Whereas a week ago the pound sterling cost some 61 francs, the cross rate had fallen yesterday to 52.66; similarly, the gold dollar had dropped from 17 to 15.05½ on Friday and 14.31 on Saturday.

Meanwhile, the mark was depreciating, touching the low levels of 0.24½ and even 0.13.

Spanish, Belgian, Dutch, Danish, Swedish and Norwegian currencies have shown a corresponding downward movement on the Paris Bourse.—French Wireless through Reuter.

Bank Rate Unchanged

London, Jan. 27.

The expectations that there would be a reduction in the Bank rate to-day did not materialize, and no change occurred.—Reuter.

£1 Up in New York

New York, Jan. 25.

The pound sterling reached \$3.82½ to-day. This is the highest point reached during the past six months.—Reuter.

Banque Industrielle de Chine

The local manager of the Banque Industrielle de Chine has received the following telegram from the bank's head office in Paris, dated January 20:—

"You are authorized to announce officially that an agreement has been reached between our bank and a most powerful group of French banks, headed by the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, according to which that group acquires a large financial interest in the Banque Industrielle de Chine."

Philippine National Bank

It is announced that during the last financial year the Philippine National Bank made net profits amounting to P.6,767,845.81. After meeting reserves, taxes and the net income available for dividends, it is believed that about P.3,000,000 will remain as surplus.

In view of the fact that the bank charter limits the payment of dividends to 12 per cent. for any one year, a six per cent. dividend has been declared for the period from July 1 to December 31, 1920.

Australian Finance

In speaking of British trade prospects, last week, Mr. F. G. Kellaway, head of the Department of Overseas Trade, instanced one particular difficulty facing exporters—the practical breakdown of Australian exchange. This is a most interesting phase of the financial situation created by the war, and for the time being seems likely to bring business to a standstill. The trouble appears largely to be due to the surplus quantity of wool in England. The Australian Government, in the first place, was called upon by the Imperial Government to repay £10,000,000 of its outstanding loans, and, in order to avoid remitting actual cash, attempted to offset this with a similar amount owing by Great Britain to the wool growers. It was hoped that the wool growers would accept Australian bonds in lieu of cash, but, as they refused to do so, the Australian Government had to call upon the banks for the necessary exchange. The banks' expectation—that, as usual, the wool sales in England would provide the necessary funds for these transactions, was disappointed.

There is little demand for wool to-day, supply being much in excess of demand, and for low grades the market is almost non-existent. Thus, not only were these sales unsatisfactory from the wool growers' standpoint, but the balances they were hoped to establish in London failed to materialize. The position became acute when two banking institutions in Australia found themselves without any balances in London and were unable to provide exchange for their clients. As a result of further financial stringency banks in Lon-

don and New York, it is stated, ceased buying drafts on Australia, and by this time the only thing left for importers to do was to ask for extensive cancellation of their orders. In the circumstances it would seem that, until the accumulated stocks of wool at Home are worked off, business with Australia is bound to be difficult.

Indo-China S. N. Co.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., inform us that they have received a telegram from the head office of this Company at Hongkong reading:—"Board has resolved pay interim dividend (of) 6 per cent. on the deferred shares payable on February 26. Share transfer books will be closed from February 19 to February 26 inclusive."

U. S. Imports and Exports

Washington, Jan. 21.

United States exports for the year 1920 amounted to \$8,223,000,000, and imports to \$5,279,000,000, being increases of \$308,000,000 and \$1,375,000,000 respectively compared with 1919. Exports to December aggregated \$720,000,000 and imports \$266,000,000.—Reuter.

Bombay Business Reopened

Bombay, Jan. 26.

The Stock Exchange and Bullion and Cotton Markets have reopened.—Reuter.

The Shanghai Markets

Jan. 29.

PIECE GOODS.

There have been no auctions during the week, and, with China New Year coming on, no further business will be done in this connexion until February 15. According to present indications, the resumption of business will find the market in a much more favourable condition than has been the case for some time past. It was at one time feared that the New Year settlement would be disastrous for a number of dealers, but the opinion is now generally held that, while heavy losses are inevitable in some directions, the settlement will be negotiated without insuperable difficulty. The native banks are said to be in an exceptionally sound position, and should be able to make advances from ample liquid funds at comparatively cheap rates of interest.

During the week there has been a fair demand for all classes of cloth, and clearances have been good for the time of year. This may be accounted for by the filling up of stocks in the interior for resumption of business immediately after the holiday, but at present there appears to be no reason why the improvement should not continue and demand reach the normal.

The position in most of the overseas markets appears to be

gradually becoming more stabilized, the improvement reflecting itself in the steady readjustment of international exchanges, accompanied by a little better inquiry for raw produce generally and the re-opening of some mills and factories in Europe and America. The opinion is held in Lancashire that a general recovery in trade will reveal a considerable shortage of supplies of cloth and yarn throughout the world and at least as far as China is concerned the stocks, though heavy at the ports of entry, are light in the interior and below the normal requirements, whilst arrivals during the next few months are expected to be on a decreasing scale.

COTTON.

The local market is firm. There has been good inquiry from consuming centres and prices have advanced by Tls. 5 over last week.

New York quotations on the 27th were: 14.72 March, 14.95 May, 15.25 July. Spot 15. The market was then easier.

A Liverpool telegram, dated the 24th, gives the ginners' censor's report as 12,016,000. There has been a rapid increase in stock in New York, the report adds.

Broach was quoted at Bombay on the 25th at Rs. 321.

Yesterday's Sampin quotations: Opening:—Y.241.70 Jan.; Y.247 Feb.; Y.250.90 March; Y.255.90 April; Y.266.70 May; Y.257.50 June.

Closing:—Y.242.20 Jan.; Y.247 Feb.; Y.250.60 March; Y.253.90 April; Y.254.90 May; Y.255.70 June.

Liverpool market was reported steady on the 25th, with quotations as follow:—

	Pence.
Egyptian Fully Good Fair	
Sakellaridis	21.50
M. G. Fine Scinde and Bengal	6.60
Good Middling American, Spot	8.83
Good Middling American, Mar.	9.43
Good Middling American, May	9.58

In their weekly cotton market report, Messrs. A. B. Rosenfeld & Son state:—

The market during the past week has been practically lifeless, and the net changes in values have been insignificant. Very nearly all the business consisted of transfers of January, February commitments to March and various straddle positions for forward months; straight buying or selling has been negligible.

As to the interest taken by trade in the cotton market: at the present time the situation does not differ from seasons in the past, namely, pending the adjustment of deliveries and accounts before Chinese New Year.

YARN.

Quite a brisk business has been recorded during the past week. Some 15,000 bales have been sold by local and interior mills at an advance price of some three (3)

Taels above the highest level recorded in our last circular. Deliveries have been as far forward as March-April, with a very firm undertone at the close. Deliveries are slackening off somewhat on account of the close proximity of Chinese New Year.

Yesterday's quotations for China cotton were as under:—

	Tls.
Tungchow	23.40
Shanghai	22.00
Nanzu	22.00
Tai Chong	23.00
Shensi I	24.00
Shensi II	22/23

SESAMUM SEED.

The Home market remains unchanged. There was some inquiry locally but no business was closed. Dealers are rather reluctant to make sales.

HIDES.

Locally, there is nothing to report. The Home market is still on the declining side.

Fu Chung Coal

The general managers of the Fu Chung Corporation advise us that the sales of their coal (Honan anthracite) for the month of December amounted to 96,261 tons.

Coal Output

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending January 15 and the sales during the same period were as follows:—

	tons.
Output	93,708
Sales	67,591

German Trade Figures

The following figures of German trade are quoted in the financial report of Lloyd's Bank:

1919	Import.	Export, including Reparation.	— Excess of Imports over Exports. + Excess of Exports over Imports.
	Mill. Marks.	Mill. Marks.	Mill. Marks.
Jan.	397	161	— 236
Feb.	408	195	— 213
March	440	292	— 148
April	626	270	— 356
May	1,463	251	— 1,217
June	2,698	406	— 2,282
July	3,538	570	— 2,968
Aug.	3,817	735	— 3,082
Sept.	4,191	790	— 3,401
Oct.	5,179	1,089	— 4,090
Nov.	4,446	1,284	— 3,162
Dec.	5,178	4,014	— 1,164
Total	32,376	10,057	— 22,319
1920.			
Jan.	6,560	3,219	— 3,341
Feb.	5,932	4,362	— 1,670
March	5,683	4,216	— 1,467
April	4,768	3,344	+ 576
May	5,537	6,647	+ 1,110

December Rubber Output

	lb.
Repah Estates, Ltd.	29,890

French Wines

The following report on French wines is given in the financial report of Lloyd's Bank:—

Reports on this year's crop are now coming in, and while the quantity obtained is not up to expectation, the quality is considered to be the best for many years. As to prices, lower grades have fallen considerably, but in spite of restricted exports to England, and the American market being closed, the best wines continue to sell at a high level.

Duty on Woollens in Japan

The "Japan Chronicle" states that there is a movement in progress among woollen textile manufacturers in Japan to induce the Government authorities to raise the import duty on foreign goods. The present specific Customs duty was revised in the 42nd year of Meiji on a basis of 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, but now does not work out, they say, at more than 5 per cent. in consequence of the great advance in prices. The vernacular Press says that the present movement is reasonable, but does not expect its success, stating that the Government, at the time of the revision of the current duty, concluded with the British Government a complicated agreement in regard to Customs duties on Japanese exports of silk textiles and other goods and is therefore not in a position to take free action regarding the proposed increase of the duty.

Japan's Imports of Spindles

During last year imports of spindles into Japan, what with the labour problems in England and America and what with the more urgent demands in Belgium and elsewhere, amounted to only 200,000 in number, reports the "Japan Chronicle." This, however, did not cause any trouble to the cotton mills but, on the contrary, was of service after March in decreasing their heavy obligations. It is true that newly-established companies were given a setback, but they appear to think themselves lucky to see this decrease. It is expected

that the invalidity of previous engagements which fall through because of these non-arrivals, will cause the price of spindles to advance.

BRITISH DYESTUFF INDUSTRY

How Commerce Has Failed to Come to the Assistance of Science: Organization Needed

The following article by Professor H. S. Armstrong appears in the "Observer."

Nearly five years ago, in January, 1916, in a series of articles in the "Observer," I not only discussed the dyestuff situation at some length, but dealt also with the factors of industrial success generally and the need of organizing our forces. In the interval the problems then considered have been the subject of endless discussion, but action has been greatly delayed. Now it is at last recognized that our industrial position is more than critical. Seemingly the war had taught us many lessons—at least it was clear that many were to be learnt from it; yet it is to be feared that these are fast being forgotten, and the danger is imminent that we may lapse into our old individualistic habits.

German rivalry has attracted our attention in the past, particularly in connexion with the chemical industry. In the third of the articles referred to I drew attention to German opinion of our ability, quoting the modest assertion made by the well-known Dr. Duisberg, in the course of an after-dinner speech in London in 1906, that his country had "the natural privilege in the organic chemical industry, and other nations should not envy her in this but leave it to her." What those who commit themselves to the tender mercies of Germany may expect has been made fairly obvious to the world.

CAPABLE BRITISH CHEMISTS.

The war should have dispelled the illusion that the Germans are heaven-sent organic chemists, though no one will seek to deny

their greatness in this field. Taking into account our backward state when war set in and the paucity of English chemists, our performance has been phenomenal.

I listened recently to a lecture in which the advances made in photography were described. The part played by aerial scouts is too well known to need description, but the extent to which they were dependent on photography is only realized by the few outside those who took part in the work; not only was it necessary that the plates should be extremely rapid, but particularly that they should respond equally well to all shades of colour. Formerly the photographic-plate makers obtained their colour-sensitizing agents from the German dyestuff works; the nature of these was unknown and the price very high. Early in the war, when the demand for such materials became urgent, their study was taken in hand in the chemical laboratory of the University at Cambridge: the composition of the dyestuffs was soon made clear and the necessary quantities were prepared without difficulty throughout the war in the University laboratory!

OUR FAILURE AS SHOPKEEPERS.

Our main failure seems to be as shopkeepers. Science will not help us unless associated with the fullest measure of business acumen. The rapid development of dyestuff factories in this country, during and since the war, is proof that we have the required technical skill. What we lack is commercial organization and co-operation of the industries concerned. Dr. Duisberg was right in asserting that,

Although the Englishman is in general practical, he is wanting in that particular quality which we Germans are remarkable for, i.e., not perseverance, but patience and the power of waiting for success. For all that the Englishman does he expects soon to be compensated in hard cash. In no field of technical work must one toil with such patience and even with the eventual relinquishment of material recuperation as in the coal-tar colour industry. It does not suffice merely to plough and dig up the soil in the most ardent manner; . . . it requires above all a singular ability to wait and bide things coming, combined with endless

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F. C. BANHAM, Manager

patience and trouble, till the ground is finally mature and capable of developing new kinds and species. We Germans possess in a special degree this quality of working and waiting.

He gave synthetic indigotin as an illustration.

CALICO WITHOUT CONSCIENCE.

In 1916 I wrote:—

There is not a shadow of doubt, I believe, that immediately after the war sentiment will be thrown to the winds and buyers, as before, will seek to buy as cheaply as possible; commerce is without conscience.

Calico, apparently, is without conscience. Here during the war great efforts have been made to produce a class of dyestuffs of special value—the dyestuffs of the future, it is believed—previously made in Germany. For some time past these have been on the market, and the quality has been superior to that of the German goods before the war; nevertheless, when the German-made dyestuffs were put on the market recently at a lower figure, they were bought in preference. No new industry can be developed under such patronage.

Such policy is penny wise and pound foolish. If we fail to develop the dyestuff industry and are obliged to fall back on German products, the time may come when the Germans will quietly shut down the supply; they will meanwhile have perfected their own textile industry, and we shall not only be without dyestuffs, but also, maybe, without shirts of British make. And so with other articles.

Charity must begin at home. The great users of dyestuffs, particularly the textile manufacturers, have always had it in their power to make the industry by providing the necessary funds, and patronizing it; this was done with advantage in the case of the British Alizarin Co., the only successful dyestuff enterprise left over from the Perkin period, now in course of development at Trafford Park, Manchester. Had the trade subscribed the capital for British Dyestuffs, Ltd., they would have had the control of the production of dyestuffs in their hands; the users could have made such terms as they chose, and they would have been still more interested in the

development of the enterprise than they now are; there would have been no need to resort to the public, a costly process; moreover, the irksome Government control to which the firm is subject would have been avoided. The one guarantee the trade need ask for is that British-made dyestuffs shall be at least equal to the German in quality.

THE SECRET OF BRUNNER-MOND.

Much has been said of our neglect of science; far too little of our neglect of commerce. The two are inseparable. The great success of the Brunner-Mond firm was due as much to Brunner as to Mond. The spark was struck, the fire kindled by Mond—he gave the *leitmotiv*; but the fire was in part laid by Brunner and the two men were equally concerned in tending it; finally they together fanned it into a conflagration. Mond was great as chemist and engineer, but Brunner was equally great as business organizer and manager of men; two such men working as one were bound to succeed.

An authoritative appreciation of the chemical industries of German Rhineland has been furnished to British manufacturers by a special mission of 20 members of the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers who visited the factories a few months after the armistice was declared. The findings of the mission may be summarized in the single short sentence printed as motto on the title-page of the summary of the report of the Mission published in March last by the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers:—

German chemical industry has been one stupendous organization for effecting and promoting the application of science to industry.

In other words, the industry has been completely organized; science and business organization have marched hand in hand. In one of my articles, in quoting Dr. Duisberg, I referred to him as the leading figure, the D'Artagnan of the German dyestuff industry; Dr. Levinstein in recent articles has spoken of him in a similar strain. The success of the great Bayer firm—to which Dr. Duisberg belongs cannot, however, be ascribed to him any more than to his com-

mercial colleague, Dr. von Böttinger, recently deceased, a man of supreme business ability and no mean diplomatist. The two men were the leaders of the German industry. Here the English industry has its D'Artagnan in Dr. H. Levinstein; but a Brunner or a Böttinger has yet to be found to develop the business, on the commercial side, on modern lines. One swallow does not make a summer; two birds go to every nest.

THE ARREARS OF FORTY YEARS.

We have in addition to recognize that a common burden rests upon us all. What we have lost through 40 or more years of neglect cannot be regained entirely by those who are at work seeking to repair the injury; the public must help; they must not mind paying the slight extra cost the use of British-made dyestuffs will entail. It is not so much a question of capital as of honest co-operation. One point Mr. Wells has already made in his articles on Russia is, that leaders and a clearly defined policy in guidance of action count before everything. At present our councils are divided and our Government apparently has no power of taking stock of the situation intelligently; no policy other than that of waiting to see which way the voting cat will jump. Labour, too, has to realize what the term efficiency means, to take pride in all work; this in particular is a German characteristic.

It is constantly urged that we must develop the dyestuff industry because of its value in wartime—this is mainly an appeal to the gallery and in no way a worthy motive, though one to be kept in mind. The industry is of such primary importance that it may well be taken on its merits. The fact is it has been beyond the intelligence of our industrial class, imperfectly educated as this has been in the past. Our real motive in working for its regeneration should be to justify the reputation we formerly enjoyed, on Napoleon Bonaparte's testimony, as shopkeepers. My arguments apply not only to dyestuffs, but equally to other industries; unless secure foundations, both commercial and scientific, are laid, import restrictions will not help us.

The China Mutual Life Insurance Co. Ltd.

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HEAD OFFICE: SHANGHAI

LAW REPORTS

H. M. SUPREME COURT

Shanghai, Jan. 24.

Before his Honour Judge
SKINNER TURNER.

Kin Kee v. N. S. Moses & Co.

Plaintiff's claim is for Tls. 7,321, money due on a bill of exchange for Tls. 9,500, dated June 12, 1920, drawn by Ching Hing-loong upon the defendants and payable on October 12, 1920; and for money paid for and on behalf of defendants at their request.

Mr. Kentwell appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Anderson for defendants.

His Lordship pointed out to Mr. Anderson that he had made no allegation that the bill was presented and dishonoured. He had also omitted to state a fixed amount for costs.

Mr. Kentwell made application for pleadings.

His Lordship—Under Rule 110, you have got to satisfy me either by affidavit, or *viva voce*, that you have a good defence to the action. It is not enough for you to stand up and say that you have a good defence.

Counsel answered that he had certain documents.

His Lordship—What evidence have you got?

Counsel—I have some letters written by one of the partners.

His Lordship—Evidence, Mr. Kentwell.

Counsel said his client was not in court.

His Lordship—Why not? Why didn't you file an affidavit? The rule is perfectly clear. What have you got to say about your writ, Mr. Anderson? You should have alleged dishonouring of the bill, but you have not done so.

Counsel said he did not think this was necessary. He asked for leave to amend the writ.

His Lordship said he would adjourn the return day until Thursday to allow Mr. Kentwell to file an affidavit stating what his defence was likely to be. On the writ, plaintiff was quite entitled to summary judgement, but an injustice might be done to defendant if the Court did not find out if he had any defence to the action. Mr. Anderson would have to file an affidavit alleging presentation and dishonouring of the bill, and fixing a sum for costs.

Jan. 27.

The matter had been adjourned for the filing of affidavits, and counsel now stated that this had been done.

Mr. Kentwell presented an affidavit signed by H. Goldenberg, manager of the defendant's firm, in which he stated that the defendants were induced by plaintiffs to accept the bill sued on for the accommodation of the drawer, and without consideration. Plaintiffs, at the request of the drawer's agent at Shanghai, verbally agreed with the defendants and the agent

"to hold the defendants harmless" if they would accept the bill. The bill sued on was drawn against documents which were in the hands of plaintiffs who, with the drawer's agent at Shanghai, had the entire control and direction as to the disposal of the cargo called for by the documents.

Mr. Kentwell repeated, in showing good cause of defence to the action, that defendants accepted the bill for the accommodation of the drawer, and he did not think the other side could show any consideration at all.

His Lordship—The bill was made payable to plaintiffs and accepted by you. You don't deny that?

Mr. Kentwell—We accepted the bill on the understanding that plaintiffs would not hold us responsible; that they would look to the drawer for payment.

His Lordship—Your position is that you put your name to it without having any liability at all; that plaintiffs accepted their signature knowing defendants never would be liable!

Mr. Kentwell—Quite so.

His Lordship said that sufficient was alleged in the affidavit to render the matter one which should be properly brought before him instead of being tried on application for summary judgement under Rule 101. Accordingly, the case would be set down for trial on Thursday next. The only defence defendants would be able to raise would be that set out in the affidavit. They would not, for example, be able to allege fraud.

THE shopkeeper charged with rice hoarding and profiteering was again before the Mixed Court on Monday, and the hearing was further adjourned. A point in the defence argued by Mr. Kentwell is that the Municipal Council has no power to issue proclamations, such as the one on which the prosecution was based, without the consent of ratepayers and sanction from the Consular Body. The case against defendant is that he was attempting to ship rice to Hongkong.

A Fokienese arrested in the Chinese City on charges of counterfeit coining was found to have a well-equipped establishment for the unofficial manufacture of dollars and cents. In the work room were found 190 spurious dollars and 100 ten cent pieces ready for circulation. According to the Japanese press, 5 yen and 50 sen notes of the Bank of Chosen are being manufactured on a fairly extensive scale in the vicinity of Shanghai.

A Hakodate special to the "Chugai Shogyo" reports that all the men in the employ of the Hakodate Dockyard Co., numbering 400, have gone on strike. The trouble was caused, it is said, by the lowering of wages without the consent of the employees. Owing to the depressed conditions in shipping circles, the Dockyard company lowered the wages of all the men by 20 per cent. towards the end of last year.

THE ELDORADO TRAGEDY

Furbush Found Guilty of Murder
in the Second Degree and Life
Sentence Imposed

Henry B. Furbush, accused of the murder, by shooting, of his fellow countryman, Richard F. Hazelton, in the Eldorado Café, was sentenced to imprisonment for life by his Honour Judge C. S. Lobingier in the U. S. Court for China, on Saturday.

The last and most painful stage in the proceedings of a trial in which a man is indicted on a capital charge took place at a few minutes before half past twelve, before a large number of onlookers. Looking paler, his face plainly showing the effects of last week's ordeal, Furbush rose, and in silence, with head bowed, received his sentence of imprisonment for life. He will be sent to Bilibid Prison, Manila, from whence he will ultimately be transported to serve the remainder of his sentence in the United States. The maximum penalty for the crime of murder in the second degree has been imposed by the Court.

The following is, in part, the text of the judgement delivered by his Honour:—

On the evening of December 13, 1920, the accused left his ship in company with the second assistant engineer. Together the pair visited three bars and a Chinese brothel, taking one or more alcoholic drinks at each place, and finally reached at about eleven o'clock a cabaret and dance hall known as the "Eldorado." There more drinks were ordered but whether consumed by the accused is a subject of dispute. At any rate the accused soon showed that he was under the influence of liquor. With a revolver in his pocket he and his companion left the table where they were first seated in the cabaret and went to another table where the accused sat down and seized the right hand of one of the occupants, and afterward the latter's fingers, which he twisted forcibly. A scuffle ensued, and when attention was called to Furbush's gun he said: "Yes, and I know how to use it."

While the struggle was in progress Hazelton, who had been seated at a table some distance away, came and intervened, finally inducing Furbush to go with him to his own table, where the accused sat down for a short time. The deceased then led him from the hall into the cloakroom, where, according to the dying declaration of the deceased and also the testimony of the three Chinese cloakroom boys, the accused, who had preceded the deceased, suddenly drew the revolver from his pocket, wheeled around and shot the deceased in the stomach, from the effects of which he died a few days later. The accused was first seen standing over the body of the deceased with the revolver in his hand. Later he left the cloakroom, going first into a lavatory from which

there was no egress except that by which he entered and, later, going rapidly down the stairs, went out of the building. There he stood for a time in a doorway and later was found wandering in a vacant lot some distance away from the scene of the tragedy. He was then taken in charge by some American naval men and later arrested by the municipal police.

DEGREE OF THE CRIME.

While the foregoing facts are not expressly admitted by the defence they are established by practically undisputed evidence, and that they show the commission of the crime of murder is not seriously questioned. The chief controversy in the argument was as to the degree of the crime.

The defence contends that none of the qualifying circumstances necessary to raise the crime to the first degree have been proved beyond a reasonable doubt. Was there, then, "wilful, deliberate, malicious and premeditated killing" or killing "perpetrated from a premeditated design?"

The accused claims that shortly after he entered the dance hall and sat down at the table he lost consciousness and remembers nothing of the subsequent events until the explosion, which was evidently that of the revolver. There is evidence on the part of the prosecution's witnesses which tends to corroborate this claim of the accused. The party whom he assailed at the other table says that the accused, when he came there, was "apparently under the influence of liquor." Another witness for the prosecution, to whose truthfulness both sides pay tribute, says that the accused seemed "sufficiently drunk to want to cause trouble." Still another of the prosecution's witnesses declares that "sometimes he did seem a little bit dazed." The bar boy who served the accused states that the latter when at the table "hung his head down and did not utter a word."

NO PREMEDITATED DESIGN.

There are other indications that the accused's condition just before the shooting was abnormal. Depositions of certain shipmates received in evidence without objection describe him as of a quiet and peaceful disposition, while, as we have seen, almost his first act on entering the dance hall was to provoke an altercation. Again the victim selected as the object of his drunken fury was not one who would have been chosen by "premeditated design." The deceased was a perfect stranger to the accused, had shown him nothing but kindness, leading him quietly from the scene of the affray to his own table, and thence to the cloakroom where the tragedy occurred. Of all those with whom the accused came in contact that evening the deceased was the last one who would have been attacked by a normal man. There was absolutely no provocation or other motive for the deed and while this in a way aggravates the character of the offence it likewise heightens the im-

probability that it was "wilful, deliberate and premeditated." In a case relied upon by the prosecution, the accused in a drunken frenzy shot a policeman who interfered in a quarrel between this accused and his wife. The verdict was murder in the second degree, but there was much more of a motive than in this case.

The circumstances relied upon to show premeditation do not greatly alter the case. The accused's remark—that he had a gun, and knew how to use it—would seem to be merely an expression of the truculent attitude which drunkenness would produce, and the same might be said of the change of expression, mentioned by the deceased in his dying declaration, on the part of the accused just before the shooting. The flight of the accused and his failure to account for the absence of the revolver afford greater indication of design on his part, but this was *after* the explosion which he says he remembers and which evidently brought him somewhat to his senses, though not fully, for he was, according to several witnesses, in a dazed condition even at the police station.

SEVEN DRINKS IN ALL.

As to the cause of the accused's condition just before the shooting we are unable to find in the evidence any other adequate explanation than alcoholism. It is, indeed, shown that Furbush had an abrasion over his left eye, but, while he says he thought he had been struck, there is no evidence either as to the cause or the effects of the wound to which we could give much weight.

But according to undisputed testimony, before reaching the Eldorado, he had one drink at the Tivoli, two at the Savoy, one, or part of one, at a Chinese brothel and three at the Astor Grill, making seven in all. According to his testimonials and the depositions of his shipmates his previous habits had been temperate while his naval record for sobriety was about the highest, and according to a medical witness called by both sides the effect of excessive drinking on one of such habits would be more severe than upon an habitual drunkard.

Now drunkenness is one of the conditions which may exclude that "premeditated design" which the law prescribes in order to constitute murder in the first degree.

A review of the whole evidence leaves us with a reasonable doubt, which it is our duty to resolve in the accused's favour, that, when he fired the shot, was he capable of that "wilful, deliberate and premeditated design" to kill the accused which the Penal Code prescribes?

But while intoxication may thus be considered in determining the grade of the crime it constitutes, when voluntary, it is no excuse for the crime itself. Nor, even had it been proved, which it was not, that the liquors consumed by the accused contained other poisonous ingredients than alcohol, would his crime thereby have been justified.

That was one of the risks which he took in consuming the liquor and, good or bad, he was fully responsible for any crime which he actually committed while under its influence, though not, of course, for one which it rendered him incapable of committing.

Having given the accused the full benefit of the reasonable doubt above mentioned, we cannot again apply it in fixing the penalty. There being no other extenuating circumstances the maximum punishment must be imposed.

Mr. M. L. Heen, counsel for Furbush, asked that an exception be made to the Court's ruling in the case.

Motion for Suspension of Sentence Over-ruled

Henry B. Furbush, convicted for the murder of R. F. Hazelton in the Eldorado Café, left Shanghai on Tuesday on board the U.S.S. Elliot, bound for Manila, where he is to undergo part of his term of imprisonment for life in the Bilibid Prison.

Furbush looked careworn when seen for a few moments by a representative of the "North-China Daily News" before the hour of embarkation. He has not lost his demeanour of apparent unconcern, exhibited almost throughout the protracted trial. An official at the U.S. Court said that Furbush "appeared to be taking his sentence very calmly."

In court on Tuesday morning, before his Honour Judge Lobingier, Mr. M. L. Heen, Furbush's counsel, read an affidavit in support of a motion for postponement of suspension of the execution of the sentence, which was overruled. Furbush will probably appeal for a remission of his sentence, but the case could not be re-tried in Shanghai. An appeal must be heard elsewhere within the jurisdiction of a U.S. Court.

In overruling Mr. Heen's motion, His Honour said:—Defendant's counsel has filed a motion that the sentence herein imposed

be postponed or suspended for a reasonable length of time to allow him and his counsel to prepare and file a motion for a new trial, and/or motion in arrest of judgement, and such other motions, petitions, or applications as said defendant may be advised by counsel, and further to perfect an appeal which said defendant proposes to take.

But the postponement or suspension of sentence is not necessary in order to enable counsel to prepare motions or perfect an appeal. Those proceedings may be taken and invariably are taken in cases like this while the defendant is in custody. For the offence of which the prisoner has been convicted is not bailable and he must be confined somewhere. He has no right to a suspension or postponement of the sentence on any ground embodied in the motion itself and we would be justified in overruling it for that reason.

SHANGHAI UNSUITABLE.

It appears, however, from the affidavit filed by defendant's

counsel, that what he really desires is not so much a suspension of the sentence as the indefinite retention of the prisoner in his present place of confinement; for he says

it is necessary and essential that said defendant be in Shanghai for purposes of conference, instructions and advice as to the course to be taken by him, and further to enable him to raise funds to further carry out his defence, and that the only source open to said defendant for the raising of said funds lies in the help of friends and relatives in America.

Unfortunately the Government provides in Shanghai nothing more than a detention prison and the quarters therein are insufficient for the accommodation of prisoners beyond the minimum period while awaiting trial. Hence the Attorney General of the United States, acting under U. S. Revised Statutes 5,546, has designated Bilibid Prison, Manila, as the place of confinement for prisoners under sentence of this Court, and has in fact ordered their incarceration there after their conviction. The institution thus designated is airy and spacious and the inmates are given congenial occupations, all of which tend greatly to promote their health and well being, which would be menaced by long continued confinement in the detention prison at Shanghai. The defendant in this case has already been confined in the latter for more than six weeks and it is desirable from every standpoint that he be removed as promptly as possible from the locality of his recent troubles. In view of this and of the instructions of the Attorney General, who is given statutory authority in such matters, we would not be justified in granting the motion even in the sense in which it is explained by the affidavit.

PRISONER'S PRESENCE UNNECESSARY.

None of the purposes pointed out in the latter seem to be such as to require the prisoner's presence here. "The course to be taken by him" and the steps leading to an appeal are matters which his counsel must decide and attend to for him and we are unable to see that the presence of the prisoner is at all so essential as it is claimed to be.

As to the "raising of funds" with "the help of friends and relatives in America" we are not sure but that is more for the benefit of counsel than of the prisoner. Certainly the latter, when called in at the hearing of the motion, offered no objection to the transfer and, apparently, knew nothing of the objections prepared by his counsel. Moreover it is practically as easy for the prisoner to communicate with his "friends and relatives in America" from Manila as from Shanghai. He might need the services of a Manila lawyer but as the father of one of defendant's local counsel is the head of a leading law firm in Manila, that phase of the matter ought easily to be arranged.

The recital in the affidavit that "the defendant was convicted by the above entitled court, sitting without a jury" seems to be an interpolation for effect. Counsel is well aware that no jury is authoriz-

ed by the law governing this Court and that the Supreme Court has upheld the law. (In *re* Ross, 140 U. S. 453, 35 L. ed., 581).

The prisoner has not yet been transferred to the ampler and better place of confinement but he should be and will be at the earliest opportunity.

The "motion to postpone or suspend execution of sentence" is overruled.

THE CANTON TWO MILLIONS

Mixed Court Injunction Dissolved and Control Given to Dr. Wu Ting-fang

Mr. Blackburn, British Assessor, and Magistrate Li gave their decision at the Mixed Court on Saturday morning in the case of the Canton funds held in trust for the Southern Government, as an official of that Government, by Dr. Wu Ting-fang.

In April of last year, on the application of Chang Shih-chao, representing the Southern Military Government, an injunction was placed on the funds, amounting to \$2,600,000, which were then in the Hongkong & Shanghai Bank. A week ago, application was made on behalf of Wu Ting-fang for removal of this injunction.

On Saturday, a motion was filed on behalf of Chang Shih-chao asking that the injunction remain in force pending trial of the action, or until further order, with liberty to apply.

Mr. M. Reader Harris and Mr. S. Fessenden appeared to represent Dr. Wu Ting-fang, Mr. R. N. Macleod and Mr. Zia appeared for Chang Shih-chao, and Dr. Fischer watched the case for the Peking Government.

Mr. Blackburn, referring to the latest application, that the injunction remain in force, said that the Court did not intend to hear it. The application for the removal of the injunction, made a week ago, had not been opposed.

Mr. Macleod informed the Court that notice of last week's application reached them five days before the hearing and on communicating with plaintiff it was found that instructions could not be obtained from Peking in time to make an appearance in Court.

Mr. Blackburn said there were political matters in the case with which the Court did not propose to deal. Plaintiff did not oppose the application made last week, and the Court therefore saw no reason why its decision should not be given.

The Assessor then proceeded to read judgement, which was as follows:—

This is an application by the defendant for an order that the action brought against him by the plaintiff be dismissed and the injunction granted on April 17, 1920, be dissolved upon the grounds set out in the application.

The application is not opposed.

This Court still adheres to the attitude which it has maintained throughout these proceedings, namely an absolute refusal to deal with any of the political issues involved, and therefore the only part of the application to which it is prepared to direct its attention is paragraph 6, which alleges in effect that the defendant has since November 29 been in Canton.

In making the order of June 2, which superseded that of April 17, we stated that our object in making it was to prevent the abuse of the sanctuary afforded by this Foreign Settlement, and we added: "... until such time as this suit is withdrawn or compromised, or better still—until Dr. Wu Ting-fang, by leaving the shelter of this Foreign Settlement, withdraws himself from the jurisdiction of this Court, the present injunction must be continued."

It was stated at the hearing of this application, and is matter of common knowledge, that Dr. Wu Ting-fang is not now in the Settlement, and this being so, the reason for the injunction made against him has ceased to exist, and we cannot longer continue it without that direct interference in Chinese political affairs which we have all along tried to avoid.

We therefore grant the present application, dismiss the action, and cancel the order made by us on June 2, 1920.

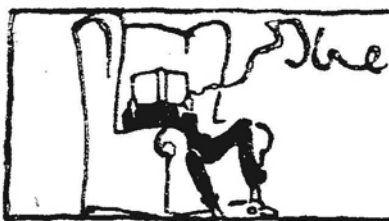
A BOGUS REVENUE OFFICER

The Man with the Camera

A curious case of fraud was proved against Wong Yue-zung, a teacher, who appeared on remand at the Mixed Court on Monday and was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment. There were several charges against him of having represented himself to be a police officer, or an official of the S. M. C. Revenue Department, for the purpose of unlawfully obtaining money from the proprietors of licensed houses.

It appeared from the evidence that accused obtained the numbers of the houses drawn at the recent "closing lottery," and proceeded to pay them a visit. He is believed to have visited some 60 licensed houses. In each case, he told the proprietors that he was an officer of the Council and had come to take their photographs, or "make some other arrangements," in view of the closing order, which would enable them to do business elsewhere. The "other arrangement" was the payment of various sums, of from \$2 to \$20.

Accused denied having represented himself to be an officer of the Council. He visited the houses "as a newspaper man," and wanted the photographs for publication. He did not ask for money. It was given to him as a present.



The Book Page

NOTES BY THE WAY

Spiritualism and Science

Two volumes of special merit dealing with this subject have recently been published—two reliable works amongst a mass of ephemeral matter intended to catch the eye of a public eager for "mysteries" and not particularly scrupulous in matters of detail. Mr. Joseph McCabe has written a *History of Spiritualism*, from 1847, (published at 15/- by Messrs. Fisher Unwin), and Dr. Millais Culpin has a volume on "*Spiritualism and the New Psychology*" (which Messrs. Arnold publish at 6/-). The two works are the subject of interesting comment by "The Times."

FAITH AND FRAUD.

There is, says the reviewer, another point of view closely related to the psychological, which is now open to the critic of spiritualism. It is not necessary to pierce the lion's hide. Take a general view of the creature, and the tell-tale ears will be plain enough. This is what Mr. McCabe does in his historical survey of the movement, which is in effect a most instructive chapter in anthropology. In the winter of 1847-48 men's minds were in a peculiarly yeasty state. That is a matter of history. America, though free from acute political disturbance, was not exempt from the prevailing unrest, which manifested itself in the form appropriate to a community that was widely scattered, doubtfully educated, and ill provided with traditions. Eccentric religious movements developed. "Universalism" and the Swedenborg cult flourished. Joseph Smith (though Mr. McCabe curiously omits to mention him) had had his revelations, and his disciples in 1848 made their memorable exodus to Utah. It was an age of enthusiasts, and the pranks of two mischievous girls, the Fox sisters, were as a spark to tinder. The movement spread amazingly. Within seven years most of the familiar phenomena—"rapports," "levitation," musical instruments played by ghostly hands—had been developed, and the believers numbered many thousands. Eminent lawyers were among the earliest converts. Horace Greeley lent his powerful support. Even Abraham Lincoln was said to be sympathetic, and his election to the Presidency was acclaimed as a spiritualist triumph. After 1855, however, a reaction set in. Many prominent and prosperous mediums were detected in fraud: and presently the people of the United States, with the noise of war in their ears, became deaf to raps and accordion music.

SOME FAMOUS EXPONENTS.

England, however, was in a position to absorb the unemployed "mediums." Mrs. Hayden had crossed the Atlantic in 1852, when the movement was approaching its zenith in America, and scored the success against "science" by bewildering the great De Morgan. Then came the romantic D. D. Home, whose career and personality it is impossible to discuss here. Home, though strongly suspect, was never conclusively detected in fraud; but we know what Browning, who was not one of those who cannot see the wood for the trees, thought about him. Then there was Thomas Lake Harris, who deserves more than the bare mention that Mr. McCabe gives him—not because he played any great part as a spiritualist, but because he was so typical of the odd mixture of humbug and unstable enthusiasm from which the spiritualist movement has derived much of its popular support. His financial relations with Laurence Oliphant indicate that Harris was of similar stuff to Home. In the later seventies and in the eighties came the inevitable nemesis. The more scientific inquirers founded the Society for Psychical Research. The more mystical became theosophists. The movement seemed to have received its deathblow in the confession of the Fox sisters in 1868. Yet a few years later it took a new form, the protagonist of which has been Mrs. Piper. Almost simultaneously the old prestidigitatory form revived, this time on the Continent, with the appearance of Eusapia Palladino, who has recently had a worthy successor in Marthe Béraud. It was not until the latter phases of the war, as Mr. McCabe points out, that renewed interest began to be shown in England. Mr. McCabe has done a valuable piece of work. His manner of doing it is perhaps a little too reminiscent of that of counsel opening the case for the prosecution. (Thus we think he does rather less than justice to Mr. Hereward Carrington.) But he is admirably lucid, and his historical review does much to reveal the character of the spiritualist movement.

SCHOOL BOOKS

We have received from Messrs. Macmillan & Co. copies of an excellently designed book for young readers—"The progress to Geography"—in four volumes. The editor is Mr. Richard Wilson, B.A. (Lond.), D. Litt. (Edinburgh.), whose treatment of the subject is so engagingly novel and interesting that the young reader cannot but absorb a great deal of knowledge with ease and pleasure. Volumes

THE RISE OF CHRISTENDOM

"EUROPE AND THE FAITH." By H. Belloc. Constable. 17s. 6d.

Mr. Belloc's book comes at an opportune moment. At a time when new frontiers are being erected in every direction, when peasant languages are ousting the languages of the educated and communication between Europeans is becoming every year more difficult, it is well that we should be reminded of the essential unity of Europe and the principles on which it must rest.

The reader should not be disconcerted by the swaggering introduction to the book, in which Mr. Belloc treats the man who is not a Catholic as an alien in Europe. It is, of course, true that a man who does not understand what the Mass is, and the place it has held in the hearts of generations, cannot hope to understand the history of Europe or, for that matter, the history of England; but a Protestant can acquire this knowledge more easily than he can discover the principles of Buddhism, and a penny mass-book will illuminate the history of a country or a city. It is a very different thing to say, as Mr. Belloc does: "Others, not Catholics, look upon the story of Europe externally as strangers."

The swagger of the introduction must, however, be forgiven, because it is followed by a brilliant and absorbing account of the rise of Christendom. There are, indeed, chapters in this book which are so valuable that we should like to see them placed within the reach of all. Mr. Belloc points to the rock from which we are hewn, and shows the heritage which we can claim as Europeans. He states, in words which fall like the blows of a hammer, what was the embodiment of European unity which we call the Roman Empire. His account of the attitude of a pagan senator to the Christian Church, then as now the only body within the Empire which had its own strict and independent laws, carries conviction and illuminates a period; and his account of Alaric's sack of Rome will revolutionize the ideas of many on that episode.

one and two contain "Pictures and Conversation," volume three is entitled "Myself and My Country," and volume four "The British World," and the complete set affords the young reader a most delightful survey of the British Isles and the Colonies, with their salient social, economic and geographical features. There are a number of excellent illustrations in line and colour. Volume one is priced at 2/6, volumes two and three 3/6, volume four, 4/-.

THE POET ON THE RACECOURSE

A New Version of "Kissing Cup's Race"

Mr. John Masefield has written another splendidly thrilling story in verse. In "Reynard the Fox" he told us the story of a day's hunting. In "Right Royal" (Heinemann, 6s.) he tells us, with equal "go" and spirit, the story of a steeplechase. The fox is the hero of "Reynard the Fox," and the reader, who is a sportsman in the decent sense, sympathized with the quarry all the way through, and revolts against the mean trickery of the hunters. In "Right Royal" the hero is the horse.

Mr. Masefield retains all the details of the time-honoured horse-racing story that has been told so often. Right Royal is ridden by his owner, who has put his "shirt" on his mount. If he loses the race he loses his all, including the woman whom he loves. The horse has a bad reputation. He is apt to sulk. He is a reputed coward, but his owner, Charles Cotthill, has dreamt that the horse came to him in his sleep and assured him of victory:—

* * * * * eager to declare
His horse's mind
And I was made aware
That, being a horse, his mind could
only say
Few things to me. He said, "It is
my day.
My day, to-day; I shall not have
another.

GAMBLER'S DAUGHTER.

And it was on this horse's dream tip that Charles staked his fortune. Mr. Masefield gives a map of the course which is certainly sufficiently hard, harder even than that of the Grand National at Aintree.

In "Reynard the Fox," Mr. Masefield gives a delightful picture of the gathering of the hunt. He is a countryman and knows country types. But, though races are run in the country, racing types are definitely urban, and the description of the roads leading to the racecourse in "Right Royal" are rather forced and unreal—the result of reading and not experience—obviously padding to make the poem long enough for a six-shilling book.

The poem becomes dramatic again when the horses are saddled and are cantering down to the starting post. Charles is horribly nervous, but again he seems to hear his horse's voice:—

"My day to-day. O Master, O Master;
None shall jump cleaner, none shall
go faster,
Call till you kill me, for I'll obey
It's my day to-day, it's my day to-day."

As Charles passes the stand he looks round and sees the favourite following him:—

His beautiful hips and splendid
shoulders
And power of stride moved all
beholders
Moved non-betters to try to bet
On that favourite horse not beaten
yet.

With glory of power and speed he
strode

To a sea of cheering that moved
and flowed

And followed and heaped and burst
like storm

From the joy of men in the perfect
form.

The horses are away at last and Charles lies back. There is a field of 27. He is the only amateur jockey in the race. The course is killing and he fears collisions and is determined to save his horse till the end. Fall follows fall. The favourites are far away, but Right Royal still assures his master of victory:—

"It's my day to-day, though the pace
may be stinging,

Though the jumps be all danger and
the going all clinging."

THE WATERJUMP.

Now the horses approach the water-jump, and here Mr. Masefield is at his very best as a poet:—

Far over his head with a whicker
of wings

Came a wisp of five snipe from a
field full of springs;

The gleam on their feathers went
waving past

And then some men booed him for
being the last.

But last though he was, all his
blood was on fire

With the rush of the wind and the
gleam of the mire,

And the leap of his heart to the
skylarks in quire.

And the feel of his horse going on-
ward, on, on,

Under sky with white banners and
bright sun that shone.

CATCHING THE FAVOURITE.

At a crucial moment in the race Right Royal falls, but his rider keeps hold of the rein and mounts again. He was far behind before and now the race seems hopeless. The horse's determination, however, is unbroken, and gradually he begins to creep up, while leader after leader fall and are out of the race:—

Charles saw his horse gaining, the
going increased;

His touch on the mouth felt the
soul of the beast,

And the heave of each muscle and
the look of his eye

Said, "I'll come to those horses and
pass them or die."

Slowly but surely Right Royal
goes up till he catches the
favourite:—

So they rushed for one second, then
Sir Lopez shot out:

Charles thought, "There, he's done
me, without any doubt.

Oh, come now, Right Royal!"

And Sir Lopez changed feet
And his ears went back level; Sir

Lopez was beat.

Then a whirl of urged horses
thundered up, whipped and blown.

Soyland, Peter Kimooks, and Red
Ember the roan.

For an instant they challenged, then
they drooped and were done;

Then the white post shot backwards,
Right Royal had won.

"Kissing Cup's Race," indeed—
with a magnificent difference!

PEM.

TALES AND SKETCHES

"ORIGINAL SINNERS." By H. W.
Nevinson. Christophers. 6s. net.

Those of us who believe, at times a little ashamedly, that art matters more than causes, have often regretted Mr. Nevinson's absorption in gallant crusades. So many men, we think, can attack the follies and wickednesses of the politicians; but there are few men who can interpret life so easily and beautifully as the author of "Between the Acts." The complaint is really as foolish as unjust. No one can read these searching, revealing stories without realizing that Mr. Nevinson would not be the artist he is if he were not the man he was.

I make no apology for dragging the man into this brief notice. For the man, with his fiery hatred of cruelty, his detestation of bureaucracy, his anger at the smug existence of fat officials, is shown, wide-eyed, in this book. Yet none of the stories are political. There are two sketches of the Roman Empire in the ages of Nero and Diocletian; an epilogue to "The Taming of the Shrew," an incomparable sketch of a schoolmaster's frustrated suicide; an almost unbearable account of life among the traders "on the Coast"; a tale of Grimsby fishermen which reads as if Jacobs had written a tragi-comedy; a less successful tragedy of a lawyer; and a wonderful piece of irony on modern moral taboos.

I know no author who has at once so distinctive a literary and so distinctive a personal note as Mr. Nevinson. There is nothing in his work of the makeshift or the second-hand. You may agree with, or dislike, him; but he is always unaffected and candid. Then he has the gift of expressing those moral qualities of his in a style which, for its purpose, is as good as that of any man now writing. He never expatiates or moralizes—yet he has not the somewhat inhuman scholarly detachment of a writer like Anatole France. It is here I feel that his life, his devotion to the causes of the future, give to his art a preserving, vital quality which is lacking in the writings of the men who live only in the world of books, too often of their own books.

BOOKS OF THE DAY

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

The XVIIIth Century in London: An Account of its Social Life and Arts. By E. Beresford Chancellor. B. T. Batsford. 35s. net.

John Gorell Barnes (1848-1913). By J. E. G. Montmorency. With an Introduction by Ronald, Third Lord Gorell. Murray. 16s. net.

TRAVEL AND NATURE.

Some Experiences of a New Guinea Magistrate. By Captain C. A. W. Monckton. Illustrated. Lane. 21s. net.

Fifty Years of Travel by Land, Water, and Air. By Frank Hedges Butler. Illustrated. Unwin. 21s. net.



OUR EMOTIONAL SAFETY VALVE

The Essence and Purpose of Music

When the nine charming daughters of Zeus and Memory were first allotted their respective tasks as protectresses of the liberal arts and sciences, it was no misbalancing of the wheel of fate which placed Terpsichore as patron both of Music and of Dancing. Her position was theoretically on an equal footing with that of her sisters. But we fancy that she inwardly lorded it (or shall we say, ladies it) over her kin; for when they all met on the slopes of Parnassus under the presidency of the lucky Apollo, the chief function of the entire group was perpetually to engage in song and dance. Thus unwittingly all the arts paid homage to Terpsichore's twofold kingdom.

TWIN FRUIT OF ONE STEM.

Closer study, however, will reveal the fact that music and the dance are not distinct, being merely two manifestations from a common origin. In "Primitive Music" by Wallaschek we may read that "Men do not come into music by way of tones; but they do come to tones and tunes by way of the rhythmical impulse." Here is at once the origin and essence of music. This is perhaps made more clear by reference to an expression of common usage among us—the music of the spheres. No human ear is attuned to receive this ethereal music of a universe which is divinely perfect, and yet so imbued are we by nature with the sense that rhythm is music, that we unconsciously refer to the frictionless and rhythmical movement of the planets through space as music.

Some go so far as to say that dancing is the progenitor of music. For example, Dr. Havelock Ellis writes, "Dancing and architecture are the two primary arts. The art of dancing stands at the source of all the arts that express themselves first in the human person. The art of architecture is the beginning of all the arts that lie outside the person. Music, acting, poetry proceed in one mighty stream: sculpture, painting, all the arts of design, in the other. There is no primary art outside these two arts, for their origin is far earlier than man himself; and dancing came first." If Dr. Ellis means rhythmic impulse by "the art of dancing" we agree with him: for as rhythm is the principle of motion in all life, so it is the basic underlying law of Terpsichore's double kingdom, as well as of all the universe.

DREAMS THAT ARE REALITIES.

If harmony and rhythm are the origin of music, the essence of it is emotionalism. Here we enter into a realm that baffles even the psychologist; and yet, strange paradox, this realm is the everyday dwelling place which we all recognize as a reality. Breathes there a child who has not fought his way to the edge of the curbstone to see the military band whose martial strains have fired his little emotions long before the band rounded the corner into sight? Is there any one who has heard Galli Curci sing Grieg's "Hall of the Mountain King," who has not been consumed by a desire to dwell in mighty mountain fastnesses where an halloo echoes from cliff to cliff and the sturdy pines bend to the will of the lord of the air? If you have a soul that has been all but drowned by an engulfing sorrow, listen to Caruso sing "Goodbye Forever," and the unbidden but welcome tears which melt your heart will tell you what we mean. No need for the psychologist's skilled but cold hand. It is better to experience emotion than to define it.

WHAT IS MUSIC?

Even looked at from the scientific point of view music must have these two elements—rhythm and emotion. Stillman defines the highest example of musical art as "a blending of melodious agreeable successions of sound with harmonic interest for a background" to which is given "inherent characteristic significance by rhythmical variety." This is only the scientific musician's phraseology for what we have already deduced. Given these elements and there is musical art: take anything away and our nymph will not recognize the product as her own. The beating of the Oriental tomtom is emotion without musical elements. The usual unfortunate exercises given to children, such as the compositions of Czerny and Cramer, exhibit the skeleton of music minus emotion. Either type is devoid of true musical import, and will not fill the place—even in training—which music should occupy.

PHYSICS AND EMOTION.

If the principle of rhythm is given sway in the musical education of a child, what will be the result? First of all, there will be a reaction in the physical life of the child. Harmonious and graceful movement of the body will respond to the principle of rhythm. Orderly sequence of movement will be followed by poise and balance, not only in the body, but also in the nervous system. And under these conditions only can there come a proper appreciation of

music in its emotional side. When this stage is reached the student can really enter into the experiences of the great composers. Musical consciousness has then been attained. This is a far cry from the "love of music" with which most of us are born, but it is only the logical outcome of consistent musical training. And in view of the profound influence of music on action, thought, and feeling, it is well worth while perfecting our "great emotional safety valve."

FASHION'S FADS

Latest News from the Continent

By our Special Correspondent.

In all circles in Europe it is the fashion to make up the eyes. The eyebrows and lashes are made up with black polish (for this, a box of paste and a small brush), and the upper lids are blackened with kohl. They must resemble two huge pools—nothing concerning the artifice is left to the imagination. Women "good" and "bad" look out from black-draped windows of the soul. Too much cannot be said about the make-up of the eyes. It is the first thing one notices on the Continent.

The hair is frizzed until it resembles a huge brush and then it is dragged up on to the top of the head, leaving the "whiskers," two side laps, over the ears or rather in front of the ears. Most hair is "touched up" with henna. There is very little natural hair, for it is not the fashion. A hairdresser told me that he had just returned (to Rome) from Egypt and in that charming country it was a rare thing to find a dark-haired lady to-day, as most of the Egyptian, Arab and European ladies were hennaed. Much lip rouge with white faces seems to be the order of the day.

DRESSING SCANTY.

The clothes are worn short. By this I mean short, never below the knees, and frequently above. The frocks are very plain, but made of good material. Two straight pieces of satin or velvet, with a very narrow ribbon tied round the waist to answer for a belt. There are no buttons, as the thing usually slips on over the head. Sometimes the frocks are trimmed with gaily coloured leather, cut into patterns and sewed on to the back of the skirt and waist—frequently with a perfectly plain front.

Corsets and lingerie have gone into the discard. Everyone is thin—so everyone can do without corsets. The start—we are off—a union

suit, silk or wool, a pair of satin bloomers—and the dress. It would not be possible to wear petticoats with the present styles, as the latter are too short.

The hats are rather plain—mostly black or dark blue with little trimming. Many tams of many shapes are worn. There is a great deal of knitted clothing. A dress all knitted is worn with a knitted coat or long cape of the same colour. These costumes are very smart. The coats and capes frequently have long fringe at the bottom. With a gorgeous red one, one looks like Carmen.

FURS PLENTIFUL.

The average coat worn this winter is lovely. A very elaborate coat tops a very plain frock in many cases. Fur is cheap in Italy and Germany (fur was always cheap in Germany) and most women seem to have some sort of fur coat. Brown fur—such as sable, mink, martin, kolinsky, etc.—is much worn. I have seen only an occasional black fur coat or cape—many capes are made of fur. Coats and capes are more worn on the Continent than "sets" of furs—for the thing here is the frock and not the costume.

Evening clothes are very gay as to colour and material—but are also rather plain. There are freak costumes for the freaks—but the rule is a plain thing with a little embroidery. Wool-back satin is used for evening frocks, as it drapes so nicely. Velvet is too expensive for any great indulgence.

THE CHILLY LEG.

Shoes are the limit in France and Italy—high heels, almost stilts, with straps across the instep. When boots are worn they must be very long and often laced on the inside. The average woman does not wear boots, however, but low shoes with stockings that leave nothing to the imagination, so thin are they. They can be grey, or almost white, with any costume. When it is cold, and it does get very cold, my lady goes forth well wrapped up above the knees. The poor legs are simply veiled with the thinnest materials.

INCREASED WAGES FOR TEACHERS

The vast importance of creating an atmosphere of content among elementary school teachers was recently emphasized, when teachers, with no-uncertain voice, expressed their dissatisfaction at the inadequacy of their salaries.

Something like a revolt was followed in England by the establishment, on the recommendation of the Standing Joint Committee under Lord Burnham last November, of a "provisional minimum" wage scale. This was accepted by the National Union of Teachers. New standard scales have now been drawn up by the Standing Committee.

THE NEW SCALES.

Including the "provisional minimum" there are four scales, and though they will tend towards greater uniformity in the pay of teachers, the increases provided in them are not startling in amount.

The maximum for certificated assistant men teachers under the "provisional minimum" was £300. It is now £425. The lowest salary for women is £150, and the maximum £340.

For head-teachers the maxima begin at £330 for men, and £264 for women, (Grade I.), and reach £637 10s. for men, and £510 for women (Grade V.).

COST OF LIVING PROVISION.

The allocation of the standard scales to the different districts is to be settled by the Committee within the next six months, and provision is made to adjust the new scales after next April if the datum figure of the cost of living reaches 170 per cent. over pre-war costs.

It is mentioned that every local education authority in England and Wales whose scale was previously below the "provisional minimum" has now raised salaries to at least the level of that scale.

Viscount Burnham, in a letter on the report addressed to the President of the Board of Education, says:—

"There is, I think, general agreement that the Committee has

already succeeded in creating in the country at large a much clearer atmosphere and better temper, and has largely neutralized, in the province of public education tendencies which at one time threatened not only to impair the efficiency of that service but to weaken its stabilizing influence in the critical period of national reconstruction."

TOO REALISTIC

There are countless studio stories about Miss Theda Bara, the "Vampire of the Films," whose visit to England has aroused such interest amongst film "fans." Herbert Brenon the famous producer, tells of how her too realistic acting once ruined a scene he was filming.

"The Vampire," was supposed to be stabbed to death by the man she had betrayed, and Theda had worked up to a marvellous pitch of intensity, the horror and despair that would presumably be felt by a thoroughly abandoned woman who realized that at last her sin had found her out, and she must pay the penalty with her life.

Finally, when the deceived husband rushed forward with a shining stiletto Miss Bara let out so piercing a scream of mortal terror that Mr. Brenon, believing the weapon had really penetrated her bosom instead of buckling up, rushed across the "dead line" right in front of the camera.

Of course this spoilt the scene, which had to be filmed all over again, but his action was certainly a tribute to Theda's acting for producers are hard men to move, and Mr. Brenon most of all.



Coat dress of pale broadcloth edged with soutache and silk embroidery garniture. It is in one with roll collar. Jacket shaped fronts, pagoda sleeves. Material bolt finished with loops on the left. Applied self bands.



MONACO AND ITS PRINCE—AN INTERVIEW

Comic Opera Politics—When the Casino Will
Disappear—Gambling and Economics—
Exploiting the Idle Rich

This is where all the old-fashioned theatre curtains were born. Here you have in a single vista, from almost anywhere in Monaco, conventional compositions of rugged mountains, gorgeous flowers, pines, and palms, marble terraces and fountains, cream coloured villas with majolica roofs and frescoed eaves, a sapphire-turquoise-emerald sea and sparkling sunlight, with a picturesque white cloud posing prettily in a baby-blue sky. To bring the picture up to date there are airships skimming about like giant dragonflies and automobile-engined racing boats flash through the water at forty miles an hour, disturbing the dreams of little snowy-sailed pleasure yachts and fishing smacks from Italy with red and orange sails.

A policeman in Monaco wears blue trousers with a brilliant red stripe, a blue coat blazing with red cords and tassels, gilt and silver, braid and brass buttons, and a blue pith helmet corded and trimmed with metal. The soldiers in front of the palace have all that and in addition plumes of red, white, and blue cock feathers in their helmets; to say nothing of their bayoneted guns. A corporal adds a dozen or two medals on his chest, most of them awarded by France for valour in the war. A captain's uniform baffles mere words to describe. Then there is in that army of nearly eighty men a colonel.

I went up to the fortress-castle-palace of the Prince of Monaco to see just how uneasy lies the head that wears his crown (writes an "Observer" special correspondent). For all its beauty the imposing structure with its ponderous bastions, ramps, turrets, towers, castellated walls, and noble drive-ways, brings a smile to one's lips. It looks so absurdly an illustration from a "Prisoner of Zenda" story. As you stand in front of the palace in the incredibly pretty square between it and the tiny town of Monaco, with its toylike streets and houses, all as clean as a stage set on opening night, you hear a flourish of trumpets. From out the palace gate marches a detail of bird-of-paradise soldiers. They form, stand at parade with stiffly-held guns, officers at salute with swords. Then through the palace gates there rolls a Rolls-Royce limousine into the square—some one of the princely family is going forth to shop.

THE PRINCE AND PROBLEM OF DEMOCRACY.

I found Albert Grimaldi, Prince of Monaco, not in the palace, but standing before his desk in his laboratory at the Oceanographic Museum with a blue denim apron over a well-worn business suit such as would not have attracted notice on the streets of London or New York. He is a quiet, almost diffident elderly gentleman with a short grey beard, mild eyes that might be called grey or brown, the features of a Frenchman of upper middle class and a good out-of-doors complexion. He was at his beloved hobby, the science of oceanography. The splendid granite museum he has built and furnished contains perhaps the most complete collection and history of deep-sea life in the world.

He speaks English idiomatically and without accent, but with a slightly French intonation. His manner alternates between a consciousness of the amusing features of his little kingdom and a deep seriousness when he speaks of its future.

I asked him, as ruler, what was his outstanding political problem.

"Democracy," he answered slowly. "You see, up to about ten years ago I was absolute monarch, as were all the Grimaldis for centuries back. But the age is increasingly one of democracy, constitutional government, popular legislatures. So I said to my people that we in Monaco ought not to be behind the times. 'The day of autocracy is past,' I told them. 'You shall have a constitution, the latest word in democratic charters. You shall make your own laws. You shall govern yourselves. I have divided Monaco into twenty-four districts. Let each of them elect a representative and these shall be your national legislature.'"

"Well, I had to do a great deal of explaining to my people. They took it into their heads that I was trying to foist on them work which rightly should be done by me. 'We've got along for centuries without this new-fangled fol-de-rol,' they said to me. 'Why bother us now to change?' 'Because you have to keep up with the times,' I told them. 'What is the matter with our modernity?' they demanded. 'Haven't we automatic electric lifts, the most modern transit, faultless paving, electric lights in the humblest villa, power plants, 1920-model schoolhouses and hos-

pitals, telephones in every home, and so on?' 'But not a modern Government,' I retorted. 'Well, that is your work,' they said. 'We have our own to attend to.'"

I looked so incredulous that he shook his head and smiled.

"It is only too true," he said with a not too care-free look. "To this very day we are wrangling about it. You see, I insisted as monarch that I was to have my way. I got a commission of French experts to draw up a beautiful document for Monaco. I promulgated it as the Constitution of the land and set a day for election to the Legislature. All I left for myself was the rights of a citizen."

EVERY MAN HIS OWN CAPITALIST.

"Well, my people grumbled. 'We haven't twenty-four men in all Monaco who know any thing about this law-making business,' they insisted. 'Let them learn,' I said. 'But there aren't twenty-four of us who can spare enough time from their business to do it.' And at that they stuck. I was in despair. 'Will you elect twelve men?' I bargained. Very grudgingly they consented to twelve men, but not until they had wrung from me the condition that these men would not have the final word in law-making. I was to have the power to veto. At first I refused."

"Well, this made my people irritated, then nervous, then angry. They organized demonstrations. Things were coming to a head. I saw that if I insisted I would have a revolution on my hands. No ruler wants a revolution. Besides, I am interested in the development of Monaco, not in its destruction. So I had to compromise on twelve men for the Legislature and the power to veto their measures. But, of course," he added, with a wisp of a smile, "that doesn't mean that I am compelled to veto anything I consider good for the Monegasicans."

"But you have not given up hope of democracy for Monaco?" I asked.

"No." His face brightened. "I still think we shall soon have it. You see, there are only about 8,000 to 9,000 natives. But there are about 25,000 foreigners, about equally divided between French and Italians. These have established their businesses here, invested their money, and are vitally interested in the laws that touch them and in the taxes they pay. Outnumbering the natives almost three to one, as they do, they feel that it is only fair that they should have a voice in making the laws that affect them. And it is only fair, don't you think?" he asked me. I had, however, no precedent on which to base an opinion. "Anyhow, I think we may get them into the Legislature."

"How about the war between capital and labour?" I asked. "It rages everywhere else in the world."

"Not here," he said. "It would be too one sided. You see, about 65 per cent. of our native population own their own villas; many Monegasans have six or seven villas. Others have their own shops and enterprises. That makes the population preponderantly capitalist in character. Of course, they also work. But you can't organize them to strike against themselves. And when someone tries it he is put on a tram and deported. The people here feel that if they struck they would only hit themselves in the face. So they don't do it."

EXPLOITING THE IDLE RICH.

What could a Socialist make of such a state of affairs? The only really exploited class in Monaco, the people whose money is taken from them in an endless drain, without any return in representation, economic goods, or promise of repayment, are the exploiting classes of other nations, the idle rich, the sporting set, the pigeon-shooting fraternity, and the parasites who flock here to gamble; and I know of no one who is likely to lead a revolution for their emancipation.

"A gambling institution is usually considered a source of moral and economic corruption in a community," I ventured to say. "Here you have the largest gambling establishment in the world and nearly the smallest country in the world. What has the Casino done to Monaco?"

He grew serious.

"People seem to think that the Casino has done everything to Monaco," he said. "But it hasn't—quite. It is true that some of our public gardens and the like have been created or are being supported by the Casino. But not all. We have done almost everything ourselves. But the effect of the Casino is undeniably great. One needs only to look about. Some fifty years ago, before my father allowed the Casino to be formed by a society, Monaco was a mediæval wilderness. There were a few straggling roads, little clusters of ancient houses, a few farms. At that time the gambling in the South of France was a great public scandal. It was forbidden by law, of course. But it went on just the same. The result was that, in addition to the evil of gambling, there were the immoral effects of a general knowledge that the law of the land was being violated, and the vicious conditions under which these gambling halls were being conducted. My father decided that since people would gamble anyhow, they may as well do it under the best possible conditions, or, rather, with as little attendant evil as possible. He gave permission to build the Casino, to surround it with an much beauty as possible he made it legal to play for money within limits, regulated the place so that only those who can afford were admitted to play, made the conditions of playing irapproachable for honesty, brought

opera, drama, ballet, concerts, athletic and aquatic sportsmen here to compete for world championships, and tried in every way to make Monaco the finest pleasure and health resort in the world. And the world has responded.

"The idea and the place have grown so tremendously in half-a-century that from a little mediæval principality this has become the pleasure capital of Europe, and also one of the centres of the whole world for scientific and artistic activities. So much building and business have developed here that Monegasans for half-a-century have experienced nothing but increasing prosperity. I think I may add, happiness."

"My people are little interested in gambling. One sees few natives in the casinos here. They are absorbed in their businesses and in their families. For they have families: Half the population of Monaco are children."

"Of course, gambling is morally wrong, reprehensible," the Prince of Monaco went on seriously. "If every playing card and gambling machine in the world could be sunk in the sea and kept there it would be vastly better for society. It is only a question of time—and the time will come sooner than most people think that this Casino will finish. But since gambling will go on in the world whether I will it or not; since it is better, therefore, to have it go on under as decent conditions as possible and, above all, since Monaco is not yet entirely able to stand on its own feet economically without the Casino, I must endure it for a while.

"You see, Monte Carlo and much of Monaco has grown up largely because of the Casino and its needs. To take away suddenly the soil in which it has flourished would be to do great harm to the community. It would bring ruin economically even to distant neighbours of our country—at least for some time.

"But I am working hard to change the economic basis of Monaco. We have great natural advantages for an ideal health resort. Already we have developed one of the most complete therapeutic, thermal, and bathing establishments in the world. Increasingly every year scientific, sporting, art and economic organizations hold their congresses in Monaco. There are three going on here at this very moment, to say nothing of the air and water, regattas.

THE PORT OF SWITZERLAND.

We walked over and looked down on it. On three sides it is sheltered by the rocky heights on which Monaco, the Condamine and Monte Carlo are built. The fourth has two sea walls of new granite almost embracing it. Within its shelter lies the Prince's big yacht; four or five hydroplanes are beached; one or two small steamers and perhaps a French or an Italian gunboat; rowboats, racing craft of every kind. Everything is new and queerly suggestive of an elaborate toy set.

"I hope to make this harbour

the port for Switzerland," the Prince said earnestly. "Why not? We are tunnelling and building railroads, and when we are through, the shortest route from the Mediterranean to Switzerland will be by the way of the harbour. We can accommodate good-seized steamers. Switzerland needs us; we need Switzerland. I am organising a corporation in which American brains and capital are to play a leading part. When my plan materializes Monte Carlo will be less important than the harbour of Monaco; and when that day comes the gambling goes."

"What alliances with other nations have you?" I asked.

"We are closely knit to France by language and currency. But politically we are independent."

"Are you a member of the League of Nations?"

He cleared his throat.

"Well, a rather peculiar thing happened in that respect," he said. "During the war Monaco was neutral. Of course, many of our men fought in the French army and in the Italian one. My son joined it, too, but I told him he would have to do it as an individual and not as the future ruler of Monaco. In effect he ran away to fight and became lieutenant-colonel. Naturally our hearts were with the Allies. But officially we thought it the part of an independent State to keep from taking sides.

"When the war was over and the League of Nations was being organized I sent in an application for membership for Monaco. President Wilson was in the chair on the day on which my application was to be taken up and acted on. But somehow in the press of other things my application was forgotten. When I found that no action had been taken I wrote to President Wilson, asking about it. My Minister in Paris received an official reply from Secretary Lansing, expressing deep regret at the oversight, and promising action at the first opportunity. In addition I received a personal letter from President Wilson also expressing great regret. I have these two documents, therefore, as my charter in the League of Nations."

THE new wireless communication with New York which was opened to the public on January 10 in Japan offers great advantages in the way of speed. A message which was handed in in Tokio that day at one p.m., elicited a reply from New York by eight o'clock the next morning. Nineteen hours for question and answer is a great contrast to conditions recently prevailing.

THE snowstorm in Japan on January 14 seems to have played considerable havoc with the telegraph and telephone wires. Almost all the long-distance telegraph and telephone wires were damaged more or less. The damage to the telephone wires in Kobe was not serious, but at Osaka and Kioto the service was completely interrupted. In Osaka alone the lines were damaged in 4,000 places.

IS SINGING ON THE DECLINE?

Carl Rosa in Search of Good Voices

Mr. Klein's book on Adelina Patti and the "Morning Post's" review of it, in which it was suggested that we shall never have another Patti, is exciting controversy in musical circles, and the expression of many varied views.

A STORY ABOUT PATTI.

Miss Kate Emil Behnke, the trainer of voice-production, says:

We cannot argue from Patti, because she was a phenomenon. I think we must grant that we have not the large number of beautiful voices that there were in 1890, although as many candidates as ever enter our academies for training.

Most of our singers are trained in the *Conservatoires* over a period of two or three years, during which time they are not only getting their voice trained, but are also learning their *répertoires*. In Italy in former times a singer would work for a couple of years on the training of the voice alone long before coming to the study of opera or oratorio, although a much simpler and more vocal type of music prevailed then.

Our bad speech habits in normal life, and the excessive noise by which we are surrounded are very straining to the voice. Think how badly people speak with their clipped vowels. Then think of the noise in the tubes.

In the case of Patti the greatest care was taken that she should not roughen or fatigue her singing voice by much talking. If at lunch or dinner at Craig-y-Nos she talked too much to her guests Nicolini would catch her eye and put his finger to his lips as a warning. Her great recreation was the performance of mime dramas, in which she would take a pantomime part for the entertainment of her guests without using her voice.

Compare that care with the modern habits of people who are simply screaming.

Modern composers do not trouble to study the voice. If a composer betrays fundamental ignorance of an instrument it is corrected on the spot, but the vocalist has to grapple with difficulties that are sometimes almost impossibilities, and may smash his voice in doing so.

MR. VAN NOORDEN.

Mr. Alfred Van Noorden, a co-director with Mrs. Carl Rosa, of the Carl Rosa Opera Company, said:—

The young singer of to-day wants to sing before training is properly completed. Voices are as good as ever they were, or better, but their possessors do not give themselves time to mature.

In the Carl Rosa Company we get a good opportunity of judging.

Wherever we go we hold weekly "auditions" of candidates for admission to our company. They bring the most ambitious music. They all want to be stars. But if we get two per cent. of likely candidates for the chorus out of them we think we are doing well.

Yet we have four companies running, and there is always room for a good singer, man or woman—if not immediately, before long. There is always room at the top.

Are we likely to get another Patti? Certainly; though nobody can say when. There are as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it, and we are always on the look-out for a good catch.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S [NEW HOME

To Be Near Tumulty and Bolling

Washington, Dec. 10.—While President and Mrs. Wilson have not definitely chosen the Washington residence in which they will make their future home, they have begun preliminary negotiations to purchase the residence of Representative and Mrs. Alvan T. Fuller of Massachusetts at 2,241 Wyoming Avenue.

Congressman Fuller is in Europe, and an offer for the property has been made to him by cable. A representative of the real estate firm which is handling the transaction was at the White House today. Congressman Fuller has been elected Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts.

The Fuller house is of brick, four stories high, with a Colonial porch. It contains a large number of rooms and is well suited for entertaining large companies. The house stands in a large lot, detached from other residences.

One block from the Fuller residence and on the same street is the Washington residence of President-elect and Mrs. Harding. Near it is also the house of R. W. Bolling, Mrs. Wilson's brother. Not far away is the residence recently purchased by Mrs. Joseph P. Tumulty, wife of the secretary to the President, where the Tumulty family will make their future home.

INDIAN mortality returns record the death last year of 20,273 persons from snake bites. The number shows a slight decrease on the previous year's total (22,600), and with the exception of 1917 there has been a progressive decline since 1915. The number of snakes killed last year was 58,416, compared with 59,495 in 1918. Apart from snake victims, 2,637 persons were killed by wild animals, this number being an increase of 473 on the 1918 total. As usual, tigers were responsible for the majority of the deaths, no fewer than 1,162 people having been killed by these animals. Most of the deaths due to tigers occurred in Bihar and Orissia. Leopards killed 469 people, wolves 294, wild bears 201, crocodiles 185, bears 118, elephants 60 and hyenas 33.

BOY THIEVES WITH CHLOROFORM

Imitating Crime on Films and in Novels

In trying to commit a burglary as they had seen it done at a cinema, three boys were very nearly concerned in murder. When one had been ordered to be sent to a reformatory and the others had received suspended sentences, they declared their intention of going straight, because they had found that "the dime novel stuff and the movies are all wrong."

The boys are Billy Huhn (17), Teddy Holhkeep (16), and Harry Kotz (15). Anton Diehl, a marble cutter, who lodged with Teddy's aunt, is alleged to have asked them how they would like to make a "little haul," and to have promised them £4 if they would get some papers which his father-in-law kept, together with £40, in a box under his bed.

AN "ADVENTURE."

Assured that there were no dogs or guns and that everything would be easy, the boys took on the job. From the confession which they made they appeared to look upon it as an adventure.

Huhn and Kotz, who worked in a dental supply laboratory, stole some chloroform, because they had learned at the cinema that this was the correct thing for burglars to have. They waited until their victim, Schreiner, had closed his store, and retired to his bed chamber in the rear, and then opened the door with the key which Diehl is alleged to have given them.

Still keeping in mind the moving picture example they went into the cellar, and opened a door so as to make sure of their means of escape, and also took off their boots, which they fixed to their belts.

STRONG DOSE.

Their key would not open the door of the bedroom, but they opened the window with a screw-driver and climbed in. Mr. and Mrs. Schreiner were asleep, but as the woman began to stir, the boys were afraid she would waken, and they then brought into use the chloroform.

The dose which they administered on cotton wool must have been a strong one, for it took a long time to waken her the next morning. The boys could not find the box with the papers, but they stole other things, and escaped.

Diehl was held for Special Sessions on a charge of petty larceny, and the boys were dealt with by Judge Humphrey in Queen's County Court, as already described.

THE third tunnel from the Jokoji station, on the Chuo railway line, collapsed suddenly recently, dislocating the railway service. The repairing was immediately taken in hand. Whilst it was going on, another part of the tunnel gave way, killing one of the workmen instantaneously and injuring two.

SAFETY OF ST. PAUL'S

Dangerous Condition of Cathedral Dome

An urgent appeal for funds for the strengthening of the Dome of St. Paul's Cathedral has been made by Canon Alexander, Treasurer of the Cathedral, during an Advent service at St. Giles', Cripplegate.

For more than seven years, he said, fortified by expert advice of every kind, they had been grappling with the critical problem of the stability of that great Dome. The problem went back to the first beginnings of the present structure. Sir Christopher Wren planned originally a much lighter Dome, and when his designs were put aside, the piers, filled as they are with rubble, proved hardly adequate to meet the tremendous pressure; and the Dome settled towards the southwest. As one stood inside and beneath it there was a wonderful impression of serenity and power; yet, in fact, there was going on without pause, day and night, a veritable struggle of giants—the Dome pressing down the piers, the piers straining to uplift the Dome.

A DIFFICULT TASK.

Though the problem was not new, it had become more acute as the years had gone by and as the conditions had become more unfavourable; and it might be only a question of time before the fabric would reach the danger point. About a quarter of the necessary work had been carried out, if wages and prices remained at their present level, a large sum would be needed to complete the scheme. Five years had been given to the practical rebuilding of the southwest pier, which had been strengthened by the insertion of several thousand tons of new stone and cement, and by the removal of great quantities of rusting iron, and he hoped that a second pier would be finished in a few months. Great steel girders, without which the workmen could proceed no further, had just been procured at enormous cost to relieve the arches of some of the weight while the piers were being finished. The interruption due to the daily services added greatly both to the time and the expenses entailed.

It was a common delusion that the Cathedral was very rich, or in some mysterious manner was maintained by the Government, the taxpayer or the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. The facts were that its income was fixed 50 years ago, that only the strictest economy and foresight had enabled it so far to meet the rise of wages and prices, and that every penny that was now being spent on the preservation of the fabric had been raised from voluntary sources.

REUTER'S Tokyo correspondent says that it is practically decided that the Crown Prince will shortly pay a visit to Europe. The itinerary has not yet been announced, but it is expected that he will arrive in England in May or June.

MAGNETIC STORMS

Scientists' Conflicting Theories

A short time ago, from an analysis of the registers of magnetic storms in different parts of the earth, Professor Chapman produced a tentative theory as to the process by which energy from the sun, generally regarded as the cause of these storms, could reach the earth. Professor Lindemann has made several objections to this theory, and the controversy provided the subject of recent discussion at the Geophysical Society's meeting at Burlington House.

Professor Chapman's original idea, since modified, was that a beam of ions, carrying electricity of one sign only, could be projected from the sun to the earth, or rather the outer atmosphere, and by bombardment of this envelope so alter its magnetic charge as to cause a magnet disturbance in the earth.

A RATHER DEEP SUBJECT.

To this Professor Lindemann made three powerful objections, maintaining that the quantity that could be obtained in this way was 200,000 times too small; that only one ten-millionth of the amount could get across from the sun to the earth's atmosphere, and that on the most favourable assumption only a six thousandth part of this could reach the earth itself. Feeling bound to suggest an alternative theory, he urged that any emanation coming from the sun must be of both kinds, positive and negative and said that he preferred the idea of a cloud ejected as such from the sun's atmosphere with a velocity of about 1,000 kilometres per second, which would take rather more than a day to reach the earth, and thus fit two known facts, one, that such clouds are seen to be projected from the sun at such a velocity, though they cannot be traced far on their course, and the other, that magnetic storms do often follow, by rather more than a day on the average, appearances of sun spots on the central meridian of the sun.

DEEPER STILL.

Professor Chapman thought that the new hypothesis would result in storms of the opposite sign to those actually observed, but was prepared to modify his theory, and accept particles of both signs as emanating equally from the sun, but he preferred to work at the earth end.

One question that came up at the meeting referred to the appearance of the Aurora, and Mr. Wright, of the Antarctic expedition, said that some of their observers claimed to have seen it quite near the ground, very much lower than Professor Chapman's limit of 100 kilometres.

Finally Dr. Eccles explained some of the difficulties found in working with wireless at night, difficulties due apparently to the earth's magnetic field, and he asked for a theory that would fit his facts as well as those of the magnetic registers.

STRANGE GIPSY FUNERAL

Roast Chicken and Gold Coins Buried With Corpse

An account of a strange gipsy funeral near Bergamo is reported by the correspondent of the "Corriere della Sera" in that town, says a Rome correspondent. The funeral in question was a woman chief of a Norwegian gipsy tribe encamped outside Bergamo. The old woman had reached the age 82. The procession was preceded by 23 musicians playing dance music. The coffin was followed by priests, and there were in the rear of the procession a number of carriages on which the curious or sympathizing public could take seats if they wished to accompany the hearse as far as the cemetery. These strangers were offered 10 lire each by the relations of the deceased at the cemetery.

The son of the dead woman directed the procession, ordering a halt now and again so that the musicians could play some music. At the cemetery the body, which lay in a coffin lined with white silk and with necklaces around the throat, was deposited in a *columbarium*. In the tomb were placed three bottles of champagne, a roast chicken, and several gold pieces. After the funeral a sum of money was given to the landlord of a local inn, and anybody who wished to drink to the memory of the deceased could do so. The gipsies then threw handfuls of earth at each other.

After this, a banquet was prepared, and a bottle of beer was placed before each of the guests. No one, however, touched any of the food—although they had not eaten for 24 hours—until the brother of the deceased arrived and lit some ceremonial candles and burnt some incense. After this the mourners ate heartily, except the son of the old gipsy chief, who alternately danced and wept.

An interesting visitor in the Hongkong harbour recently was a private Ewo yacht, painted with the Ewo blue. She is a smart little two-funneled vessel, originally a destroyer, and looks very much like one yet. On board her is Mr. H. Keswick, one time head of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. in Shanghai.

THE Osaka Prefectural Government has begun an investigation of the conditions existing in factories under the jurisdiction of the Government. Sixty officers have been appointed to carry out the investigations. According to the reports received the number of factories in the City of Osaka is 17,610 and those outside the City number 17,590. The figure indicates an increase of 29,590 factories since the end of 1919. This surprisingly large increase of factories shows the sudden growth of the manufacturing capacity of Osaka.

MAIL NOTICES

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PASSENGERS

INWARD

Per str. Kwongsang, January 21. From Hongkong. Miss H. Borchet.

Per str. Shengking, January 21. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Home, Mr. Brown.

Per str. Hsin Peking, January 21. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. Gorton.

Per str. Kiangteen, January 22. From Ningpo. Messrs. E. Richter, Hildebrandt, G. Wood, Clouth, Jenkins, Young, Mr. and Mrs. Halft.

Per str. Kiangwah, January 22. From Hankow. Rev. Magnan.

Per str. Poyang, January 22. From Hankow. Miss Knudsen, Mr. and Mrs. Fowler and infant, Mr. Griffin, Lieut. W. S. Vernon and Mr. Drummond.

Per str. Kiangyung, January 22. From Hankow. Rev. Fathers Verdini and Hermans.

Per str. Hsinming, January 22. From Foochow. Messrs. F. H. Dunn, Dr. H. Grey.

Per str. Yusang, January 23. From Hongkong and Swatow. Mr. Jeffrys.

Per str. Hsin Peking, January 23. From Ningpo. Mr. F. H. Watson.

Per str. Luenyi, January 23. From Hankow. Mrs. Sellick, Miss Saint Pol, Messrs. W. L. Carney and Nilsen.

Per str. Armand Behic, January 23. From Marseilles. Mr. Fleurtiaux, Rev. Père Barry, Mrs. Sangelack and 2 children, Mr. A. Debraux, Mr. P. Huet, Mr. N. Baudoin, Mr. Nie, Mrs. Rosset and infant, Miss Mary Plenty, Mrs. Roé, Mr. and Mrs. Denoux and infant, Mr. Somme, Miss Maar, Mr. Robin, Mr. and Mrs. Wilden, Miss K. Wermelend, Mr. S. M. Barnwell, Mr. and Mrs. Berthet and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Gouget and infant, Mr. Nidal, Mr. Baisi, From Singapore. Messrs. Blondeau and O. Thomas. From Saigon. Messrs. Riguelou and Laurencou. From Hongkong. Mrs. E. Barley, Mr. A. G. A. Castro, Rev. Père Andre, Mr. Tocher Pouder, Père Legence, Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams, Messrs. Gargan, Noxle, C. A. Peel, E. B. Brown, S. G. White, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Madsey.

Per str. Luenho, January 22. From Kiangkiang. Mr. Marshall.

Per str. Suiwo, January 23. From Hankow. Mrs. Speits.

Per str. Yamashiro Maru, January 23. From Moji. Mrs. E. Sanson, Mr. T. W. Mitchels, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. S. B. Thompson, Mrs. E. O. Baker, Mr. L. P. Bennet, Miss G. Lawson, Mr. and Mrs. Swenson, Dr. R. Francis, Mrs. C. Van Dyke, Mr. and Mrs. Clark, Mr. Tarfait, Mr. K. Y. Hora, Mr. S. Boushrieff, Mr. B. Deveson, Mrs. D. Elliot, Mrs. J. Logan, Misses K. and A. Logan, Mr. W. Ehrhardt, Miss E. Ehrhardt, Mr. and Mrs. F. Schuock, Mr. F. de la Poudtsfure, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Vincent, Mr. J. R. Vincent, Miss B. Vincent, Mr. T. M. Knott, Mr. and Mrs. Lishin, Mr. M. Anderson and Mrs. E. F. Fuller.

Per str. Chekiang, January 24. From Tientsin. Mr. and Mrs. Everall and 3 children.

Per str. Singkiang, January 24. From Hongkong. Messrs. J. Orange, G. Ellis, H. Wakelam, Mrs. M. Turnbull, Mrs. Edwards and infant.

Per str. Ningshao, January 24. From Hankow. Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Champnese, Miss Champnese and Mrs. Minnie Garrett.

Per str. Wuchang, January 25. From Hankow. Messrs. Smith and Curry.

Per str. Kiangteen, January 25. From Ningpo. Mr. and Mrs. Proctor, Mr. Brecken and Dr. Sugg.

Per str. Hsin Ningshao, January 26. From Ningpo. Mrs. Hudson.

Per str. Yawata Maru, January 26. From Kobe. Mr. L. W. Borghit, Miss A. E. Nicolle, Mr. H. D. Hennis and Mr. J. Barbour.

Per str. Paul Lecat, January 26. From Japan. Mr. A. J. Keller, Mr. G. C. Shaw and 2 children, Mrs. Oustromoff and child, Mr. W. F. Gerrard, Mr. and Mrs. Walden and Mr. Hennings.

Per str. Tamba Maru, January 26. From London. Commander and Mrs. N. K. H. Bonde, Mr. J. W. H. Cranwell, Mr. D. Drake, Mr. T. Macphail, Mr. H. Macphail, Miss F. Macphail, Mr. and Mrs. Pridoux Brun, Mr. R. Ruegg, Mrs. W. J. Scott and child, Mr. Vander Borghit Victor, Mr. F. H. Davies, Mr. T. D. Emslie, Mrs. E. F. Shearer and child, Mr. W. Spence, Rev. P. J. Smith, Miss L. S. Pollock.

Per str. Kiangyung, January 25. From Hankow. Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. Gale and Mr. Hennessey.

Per str. Wingsang, January 27. From Hongkong. Mr. and Mrs. George Gray.

Per str. Kiangteen, January 27. From Ningpo. Miss Kastow and Mr. C. M. Maher.

OUTWARD

Per str. Ngankin, January 18.—For Hankow—Miss Tiffin, Miss F. Tiffin, Mr. J. W. Rawlings, Mrs. J. Woods and infant, Mrs. Palmer, Rev. Father A. Buch. For Kiukiang—Rev. Father J. Caldara.

Per str. Woosung, January 19.—For Tungchow—Mr. Ziniek. For Nanking—Mr. W. J. Drummond. For Hankow—Mr. L. K. Hall, Mrs. J. Marshall, Dr. and Mrs. MacGillivray, Mr. M. H. Logan, Mr. Robert Horn, Miss MacDonald, Mr. W. Ironside.

Per str. Tungting, January 20.—For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Ash.

Per str. Ningpo—January 21.—For Hongkong—Mr. H. J. Pearce.

Per str. Tatung, January 21.—For Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. H. Goffe, Mr. and Mrs. T. Paletti, Mr. and Mrs. Ash, Mr. F. R. Henrick, Captain Christiansen.

Per str. Loongwo, January 21.—For Nanking—Mr. James Milner. For Wuhu—Miss L. Keller, Mr. John Rolerson. For Kiukiang—Masters J. Hoerter, E. Scully, J. Steadman, W.

Echart, E. and A. Lester, Misses M. E. Wallace, E. Cockburn, B. and G. Barrie, Tilley, E. Echart, Mr. J. W. Ross. For Hankow—Messrs. Irvin Howell and Henry Cox. For Ichang—Mr. and Mrs. Marrimer, Mr. Marrimer, Jr., Miss Marrimer.

Per str. Chenan, January 22.—For Tsingtao—Misses L. Monkman, D. Barnes, W. E. Waite, V. and A. Roach, V. Judah, E. Concoff and A. and A. Carneiro, Master N. Concoff, Master S. Judah, Misses A. T. Haimovitch, Vera Hawkings, Ida Bauld, F. Mahon.

Per str. Hsin Peking, January 21. For Ningpo.—Miss U. Wells and Mr. A. Bookless.

Per str. Chungking, January 22.—For Hankow.—Mr. D. E. Hahu.

Per str. Kwangping, January 24.—For Weihaiwei.—Mr. H. L. Beer, Miss M. E. Beer, Miss Miller, Master Henchen-dorff, Master Stabeyeff, Master Cumming, Master Sims and Master Hunter.

Per str. Kweilin, January 25.—For Chefoo.—Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Huan and infant.

Per str. Luenho, January 24.—For Hankow.—Mr. and Mrs. Brooke, Mr. and Mrs. N. E. Swenson, Miss Lawson, Dr. Francis and Mr. C. A. Peel.

Per str. Suiwo, January 25.—For Nanking.—Mr. C. W. Barrow. For Hankow. Rev. Cooper and Mr. H. Mann.

Per str. Hsinming, January 26.—For Foochow.—Misses H. Scott, Thompson, Higgins and Mr. A. Hanson.

Per str. Kutwo, January 27.—For Kiangkiang.—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Lewis. For Hankow.—Mrs. Tod and child, Messrs. Boudion, J. F. Jodansing, Biddow and Cohen.

BIRTHS

HEARN.—On January 26, 1921, at Shanghai, to Rev. and Mrs. Thos. A. Hearn, No. 18 Quinsan Road, a son.

NORTON.—On January 17, 1921, at Foochow, to Rev. and Mrs. E. M. Norton, of Trinity College, Foochow, a daughter.

PIERCY.—On January 23, 1921, at Hongkong, to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Piercy, a son.

VALCHICH.—On January 15, 1921, at Trieste, Italy, to Captain and Mrs. A. Valchich, a son. (By cable).

MARRIAGES

CARVALHO—COSTA.—On January 22, 1921, by the Rev. Fr. Baumert, S.J., in the Church of the Sacred Heart, Hongkong, Tito Antonio Carvalho, son of Mr. Frederico Eugenio Carvalho, of Hongkong, to Palmyra Angelina da Cruz Costa, daughter of Mr. Rodolfo Gomes da Costa, of No. 24 Haskell Road, Shanghai. Hongkong and Macao papers please copy.

The marriage of Ernest Frank Clennell eldest son of Consul and Mrs. Clennell, H.B.M. Consulate, Chinking, to Miss Ileene Aste, only daughter of Henry Aste, Esq., Carlton Hill, London, will take place at St. Mark's, Hamilton Terrace, London, N.W., on the 5th February.

DEATHS

BELL.—On January 13, 1921, at Bedford, England, D. W. Bell, late of No. 8 Jinkee Road, Shanghai, at his home, South Lodge, Sidney Road, Bedford. Deeply regretted. (By cable).

CURTIS.—On Thursday, January 27, 1921, at the General Hos-

pital, Shanghai, C. J. Curtis, S.M.C. Electricity Department, aged 27.

LADD.—On January 21, 1921, at Shanghai, Herbert Henry Ladd.

STEWART.—On January 20, 1921, at Hankow, Albert Ashton Stewart, consulting engineer to Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co. Deeply regretted.

PAY BY CHECK

\$1 opens a Savings Account
\$100 opens a Checking Account

CURRENT ACCOUNTS

FAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

FAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

STERLING

AMERICAN GOLD

FIXED DEPOSITS

FAELS

MEXICAN DOLLARS

STERLING

AMERICAN GOLD

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PURITY AND EXCELLENCE.**

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SICAWEI METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

Day of Month	Barometer.		Wind.		Hygrometer 9 a.m.		Thermometer in Shade		Weather condition
	9 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Direction 9 a.m.	Force (1-12)	Dry	Wet	Max.	Min.	
Jan. 21	30.23	49.7	W	1	42.8	39.4	54.8	30.0	B.
" 22	30.46	48.9	NW	1	37.2	34.0	48.4	27.7	B.
" 23	30.29	47.0	NSE	1	38.3	36.2	47.9	29.3	O.
" 24	30.30	48.0	NE	1	47.3	45.4	62.8	41.5	O.
" 25	30.24	50.0	SE	0	51.6	49.8	55.4	47.7	O.
" 26	30.40	50.0	NNW	1	40.8	40.8	57.9	39.0	O. F.
" 27	30.23	50.0	E	2	49.1	45.6	60.8	39.8	O.

B—blue sky D—drizzle H—hail M—misty (hazy) R—rain T—thunder
C—clouds F—fog L—lightning O—overcast (dull) S—snow Z—calm

SHANGHAI THERMOMETER READINGS FOR THE WEEK

In the open air in a shaded situation in the Foreign Settlement

Date	Thermometer (Fahr.)				Rainfall	
	Minimum		Maximum		Inches	
	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920
Jan. 21	33.0	33.4	53.4	51.2	Nil.	Nil.
" 22	31.8	27.0	46.0	46.6	Nil.	Nil.
" 23	33.0	33.2	46.2	55.8	Nil.	Nil.
" 24	43.2	32.6	66.0	50.8	Nil.	Nil.
" 25	49.0	30.0	55.0	48.0	Nil.	Nil.
" 26	41.6	39.0	58.0	57.8	Nil.	Nil.
" 27	42.8	49.0	59.6	55.8	Nil.	0.16

There's a Sure Way to Lasting Relief

IN CASE OF Eczema, Blisters, Pimples, Bolls, Eruptions, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Rheumatism, Gout, you should realize that lotions, ointments, etc., can only give temporary benefit—to be sure of complete and lasting relief you MUST thoroughly cleanse the blood of the poisonous waste matter, the one cause of all such troubles—Clarke's Blood Mixture contains ingredients which quickly overcome and expel the impurities, that's why so many lasting cures stand to its credit. Pleasant to take and free from anything injurious.

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